II. 46. 5.

(~~Text~~ How many letters in the file are of the same wording)

11/12/70

विषय Constituent Assembly.

विभाग

क्रम (June - July - 1946).

वर्ष

S

O.U.

दायकागज़

A

General

B.

Indian Christians

1

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Received here at 16-50 H. M.

No. 3

12 JLY 46 G.T.O.

= X ML LAHORE 12-151 SARDAR VALLABBBHAI PATEL MARINEDRIVE BOMBAY =

== WE APPEAL AS FOLLOWS NONINCLUSION CHRISTIAN AMONGST CONGRESS NOMINEES CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY GREATLY RESENTEDBY CHRISTIANS PLACING CONGRESS CHRISTIANS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT POSITION AND DOING CONSIDERABLE INJURY AAA CONSIDER ENTIRE ABSENCE CHRISTIAN IN GROUP B UNFAIR TO HALF HALF MILLION CHRISTIANS PARTICULARLY AS POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN THIS GROUP PECULIAR COMMUNALLY

The

G. PRESS

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

2

INDIAN T... D TE... ...HS DEPARTMENT

No.

here at ——— H. ——— M.

AAA HONESTLY BELIEVE THIS POLICY DETRIMENTAL TO BEST NATIONAL INTERESTS

WHICH DEMAND NATIONAL DELGATION INCLUDING CHRISTIAN AAA TO PREFER APPEAL

DEWAN BAHADHUR SINGHA SPEAKER PRESIDENT PUNJAB INDIAN CHRISTIAN CONGRESS

MINDED AND B L RALLIA RAM GENERAL SECRETARY ALL INDIA COUNCIL INDIAN CHRISTIAN

CONGRESSMEN ARE BOTH FILLING NOMINATIONS URGING YOU ORDER READJUSTMENTS

TO INCLUDE CHRISTIAN AA IF CONGRESSHIGH COMMAND SO DESIRE WHOSOEVER SELECTED

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only) office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

R. C. PRESS

22

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

No. 3

Received here at ——H.——M.

WILL RESIGN AFTER ELECTION FOR RAJA MAHARAJSINGHOR KANWAR DALIPSINGH AAA

JAI HIND AAA TELGRAPHING THIS APPEAL TO PANDIT NEHRU SARDAR PATEL

MAULANA AZAD AND RAJENDERPRASHAD

= SINGHA MASONROAD RALLIARAM LAJWANTINIWAS WARRIS ROAD =

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only) office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.
This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

A. C. PRESS

JOINT COMMITTEE

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA

AND

THE ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS

President :
M. Ruthnaswami,
C.I.E., K.C.S.G., M.A., Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
P. O. Annamalianagar, South Arcot.

Secretary :
B. L. Rallia Ram, B.Sc., B.T.,
c/o P. O. Box 133,
Lahore.

JAI HIND.

Dated: Ist July, 1946.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
Marine Drives,
Bombay.

Dear Sardarji,

I am deeply grateful to you for your kind letters. As we look upon you as a special custodian of our rights, I am writing to say that we fully appreciate what you say and there is no doubt that the difficulties for selecting an Indian Christian from the Punjab are real. But, on the other hand, will it not strengthen the national cause if there is at least one Indian Christian in group 'B'. In that group the Moslems may raise Communal issues and should they not be faced by a group which is not wholly Hindu.

I may also point out that

a). In the Punjab the number of Indian Christians is the largest. Here are the figures:-

Madras.	:.	2,001,022.
Punjab.	..	486,038.
Bombay.	..	338,812.
U. P.	..	131,327.
Bengal.	..	110,923.

Note.1. Total No. of Anglo-Indians in India are 140,422.
Note.2. See Census Report 1941 - India Vol.I Page 99.)

b). According to the numerical principle of representation, the Christians in Group 'B' are entitled to a little more than 1/2 seat. The position is follows:-

(Contd).

Scheduled Castes. ..	1,284,635	1¼ Seat.
Hindus.	6,301,737	6¼ Seats.
Ad Dharmies. ..	3,343,685	1/3 seats.
Indian Christians...	486,038	¼ seat.

Consequently on numerical basis Scheduled Castes are entitled to one seat; Hindus to six seats. Christians should have, in fairness, to 1 seat. Next to Madras, Punjab has the largest number of Indian Christians.

I do think, therefore, that inspite of the keen contest Congress should find a place for a Christian Indian in group 'B'.

I am not appealing to you from any personal motive, by all means select anybody you like but do have a Christian, otherwise we Congress Christians will be in an awkward position and our attempt to win over the whole Community to the Congress cause will be handicapped and I believe the National Cause itself will suffer for the Congress delegation will be incomplete without a Christian.

I hope you will forgive me for placing my point of view so bluntly.

I am,
Yours respectfully,

B. L. Rallia Ram

Hony: Secretary,
JOINT COMMITTEE OF CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA
AND THE ALL INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS

Camp: New Delhi.

28th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 26th inst. and I have forwarded it to the General Secretary of the Congress, who has been authorised to issue instructions in this behalf.

Yours sincerely,

The Hony. Secretary,
Joint Committee of Protestants & Catholic
Union of India,
Post Box No.133,
Lahore.

JOINT COMMITTEE

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA

AND

THE ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS

President :
M. Ruthnaswami,
C.I.E., K.C.S.G., M.A., Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
P. O. Annamalianagar, South Arcot.

Secretary :
B. L. Rallia Ram, B.Sc., B.T.,
c/o P. O. Box 133,
Lahore.

Dated: 26th June, 1946.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
C/o Rajkumari Amrit Kaur,
C/o Gandhiji,
Reading Rd.,
New Delhi.

Dear Sardar Sahib,

In acknowledging my previous communication to the Congress Committee, you very kindly said that the matter will be considered by the Working Committee at the proper time. We and hence my enclosed letter depend upon you kindly to sponsor our request as you have always been particularly kind to the Christians, and we look up to you for help and guidance.

I am glad that the Congress has turned down the Interim proposals that it has accepted the Long-term settlement.

I am,
Yours gratefully,

Enc/1.

B. L. Rallia Ram

Hony: Secretary,
JOINT COMMITTEE OF PROTESTANTS AND CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA AND ALSO OF ALL INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS, AND CONVENER, CONGRESS CONTACT COMMITTEE.

JOINT COMMITTEE

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA

AND

THE ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS

President :
M. Ruthnaswami,
C.I.E., K.C.S.G., M.A., Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
P. O. Annamalianagar, South Arcot.

Secretary :
B. L. Rallia Ram, B.Sc., B.T.,
c/o P. O. Box 133,
Lahore.

Acharya Kriplani,
General Secretary,
All India Congress,
~~New Delhi.~~ Srinagar
All India

Dear Acharya Ji,

Some time ago I sent you a letter on behalf of the Catholic Union of India and the All-India Council of Indian Christians asking you kindly to place our request before the Working Committee that in making their nominations to the Constituent Assembly from Indian Christians they should take into consideration the views of the Indian Christians as expressed by their Organizations.

I am afraid that the procedure I suggested is not possible. I am, therefore, making direct approach of sub-mitting to you eight names out of whom some members may be chosen.

A few days ago I sent a circular inviting the Committee to vote on eight names but only recently when the present Legislative Assembly was organized, such a vote was taken and eight names were suggested to the Viceroy, for nomination to represent Indian Christians.

I, therefore, can confidently put forward these names as having the full support of the Joint Committee.

Four of these names are those of Protestants and four of Roman Catholics.

P.T.O.

(Contd).

It is not suggested for a single moment that the Congress should select all Indian Christians from this list but only a few say three or four both Protestants and Catholics.

The selection of some of them will infuse a certain amount of confidence in the minds of the rank and file of the Indian Christian Community and I hope that for that reason this request will be acceded to.

With each name I have made few notes so as to give you knowledge about them.

I may state that I am sending this letter in my official capacity.

Hoping that this matter will receive the careful consideration that it deserves.

I am,
Yours sincerely,

B. Z. Rama Rau

Hony: Secretary,
Joint Committee of Protestants and Catholic Union of India and also of All India Council of Indian Christians, and Convener, Congress Contact Committee.

IJS.

JOINT COMMITTEE

THE CATHOLIC UNION OF INDIA

AND

THE ALL-INDIA COUNCIL OF INDIAN CHRISTIANS

President :
M. Ruthnaswami,
C.I.E., K.C.S.G., M.A., Vice-Chancellor,
Annamalai University,
P. O. Annamalianagar, South Arcot.

Secretary :
B. L. Rallia Ram, B.Sc., B.T.,
c/o P. O. Box 133,
Lahore.

A. PROTESTANTS.

1). Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, 10 Mall Avenue, Lucknow. (The Manor, Simla West). It is hardly necessary for me to write anything about Raja Sahib. He is the member of Congress Committee. The members of the Congress Committee could not be unawared of their ability. He is an accredited leader of the Indian Christian Community. He was a member of the Sapru Committee.

2). Dr. H.C.Mukerjee, M.A., Ph.D., Ex-Member, Bengal Legislative Assembly, Dehi Srirampur Rd., Calcutta. Dr. Mukerjee is also well known as a Nationalist Christian Leader who was President of the All-India Conference of Indian Christians and also its organizing Secretary for several years. Recently his ill-health has compelled him to withdraw from active participation in public life.

3). S. Balasangam Satya, M.A.,LL.M., Grace Cottage, Vepery, Madras. Mr. Satya is an eminent layer. He is the President of All India Council of Indian Christians. He also holds several important positions.

4). B.L.Rallia Ram, Hony: Secretary, Jt. Committee and of the All-India Council of Indian Christians. He is a member of the Indian National Congress and is also a member of the Congress party in the Lahore City Corporation. He is the President of the North West Indian Christian Council and Vice President of the National Christian Council of India, also being one of its two representatives on the International Missionary Council. He was a member of the Sapru Committee.

P.T.O.

Contd.)

B. ROMAN CATHOLICS.

1). Mr. M.Ruthnaswami, M.A., Bar-at-Law, C.I.E., Vice Chancellor, Annamalai University, P.O. Annamalianagar, South Arcot, also Constitutional Advisor to the Government of Mysore. He is a known writer on Constitutional matters. He was the Speaker of the old Madras Legislative Council and he was also for some time a member of the Central Legislative Assembly. He was also a member of the Sapru Committee.

2). Prof. A. Soares, M.A.,LL.B., 'Chembur', Bombay. He is the Secretary of Catholic Union of India. He holds progressive nationalist views. He was also a member of the Bombay Corporation at one time.

3). Mr. C.M.Lobo, Cincinnatus Town, Karachi. He was a judge of the Chief Court, Sindh and also officiated Chief Justice for some time.

4). J.L.C.Roche-Victoria, M.L.A., 'Sukhastan' Tuticorin Madras, South India. He has been elected to the Madras Council on a Congress ticket.

3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 28th June and your telegram referred to therein. The Working Committee has issued instructions to the Congress Assembly Parties in the provinces to make adequate provision for minorities such as Indian Christians, Parsees, Anglo-Indians, Women and Special Interests such as labour, but we have left the choice of candidates to the provincial parties. I hope therefore you will be able to secure your objective through the local party, so far as selection is concerned.

I am glad to hear that our action in the negotiations in Delhi has met with your approval.

Yours sincerely,

Shri V.K.John,
President, Federation of Indian Christians,
"Roslyn",
St. Mary's Rd.,
Kodaikanal.

Federation of Indian Christians

13

PRESIDENT:
MR. V. K. JOHN, B.A., B.L., (MADRAS)
LL.D. (LONDON), BARRISTER-AT-LAW.
Member, Legislative Council (Madras)
Leader, Madras Legislature, Indian Christian Group.

Joint Secretaries:
MR. A. C. VERGHESE, B.A., B.L.
AND
MR. A. D'SOUZA, B.A., B.L.

Office:
ANDHRA INSURANCE BUILDINGS,
THAMBU CHETTY STREET, MADRAS.

Date 28th June 1946.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

THE HON'BLE SIR DAVID DEVADOSS, B.A., B.L., *Barrister-at-Law, Member, Council of State*
LT.-COL. DR. J. C. CHATTERJEE, M.A., D.LITT., M.L.A. (CENTRAL). *Vice-Chancellor, Agra University.*
DR. M. J. SAMUEL, M.L.A. (MADRAS) *Secretary, Madras Legislature Indian Christian Group.*
DEWAN BAHADUR A. APPADURAI PILLAI, M.A., I.S.O., EX-M.L.A. (MADRAS)
MR. S. J. GONSALVES, B.A., B.L., EX-M.L.C. (MADRAS)
MR. J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA, M.L.C. (MADRAS) *Chairman, Tuticorin Municipality*
RAO SAHEB J. RAJA ROW, EX-M.L.A. (MADRAS)
MR. D. R. ISAAC, B.A., B.Ed., EX-M.L.A. (MADRAS)
MR. V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY, B.A., B.L., *(ex-Mayor of Madras)*

MRS. MONA HENSMAN, B.A. (HON.), M.B.E., J. P., M.L.C. (MADRAS)
MR. A. AARON ROW, M.L.A. (MADRAS)
THE HON'BLE MR. DANIEL THOMAS, B.A., B.L., M.L.A. (MADRAS) *Minister, Local Self-Government*
RAO BAHADUR A. SAVARINATHAN PILLAI, B.A., *President, Indian Christian Labour Union, Coimbatore*
MR. J. A. SALDANHA, B.A., LL.B., EX-M.L.C. (MADRAS)
MR. M. S. SRESHTA, EX-M.L.C. (MADRAS) *Vice-President, South Canara Catholic Association*
DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO, M.A., M.D., M.L.A. (MADRAS)
MR. B. CHAKRANARAYAN, B.A., LL.B., EX-M.L.A. (BOMBAY)
MR. K. RALLIARAM, EX-M.L.A. (PUNJAB)

THE HON'BLE DEWAN BAHADUR S. P. SINGHA, M.L.A. (PUNJAB), *Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Punjab*
MR. C. GOLDSMITH, EX-M.L.A. (ASSAM)
MR. T. J. M. WILSON, B.A. LL.B., M.L.A. (MADRAS)
DR. JOSEPH A. D'SOUZA, M.L.A. (BOMBAY) *Ex-Mayor of Bombay*
DR. J. A. COLLACO, L.M.S., EX-M.L.A. (BOMBAY) J. P., *Ex-Mayor of Bombay*
DR. H. C. MOOKHERJEE, M.A., PH.D., EX-M.L.A. (BENGAL)
REV. L. GATPHOH, B.A., EX-M.L.A. (ASSAM)
RAJA SIR MAHARAJ SINGH, KT., C. I. E., EX-M.L.A. (U. P.)
MR. E. PERIYANAYAGAM, B.A., B.L. EX-M.L.C. (MADRAS)
MR. HARI PANI JENNAH, EX-M.L.A. (ORISSA)
MR. J. D. MARAK, EX-M.L.A. (ASSAM)
REV. S. K. TARAFDAR, EX-M.L.C. (BIHAR)
MR. L. C. PAIS, B.A., B.L., M.L.A. (MADRAS)

Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Member,
Congress Working Committee,
Congress House, Bombay.

"Roslyn",
St. Mary's Road,
Kodaikanal.

My dear Sardar,

I wired to you as follows: "To remind you of my request to return leading Indian Christians to Constituent Assembly and your kind promise you will attend to it. I am willing to serve on the Constituent Assembly."

I am writing with reference to your letter dated 10th inst. in reply to mine of the 2nd inst requesting you to see that Congress sent up seven or eight Indian Christians to the Constituent Assembly. In this connection I mentioned that I have made a special study of Constitutional

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law and I might be of assistance if I am elected. You might know I am a member of the Legislative Council, leader of the Madras Legislature Indian Christian Group and President of the Federation of Indian Christians. I am a Doctor of Laws with Ist class honours in every paper I sat for the bar examinations, and a graduate in law of the University of Madras. You know I am as national minded as anybody else although not yet a member of the Congress. I supported Indian Christian Congress candidates for election to the Madras Assembly and the return of some of them is due to my own efforts.

In requesting you to consider my name for election to the Constituent Assembly I have only one idea in my mind i.e. service to the country.

I am very pleased to read that the Congress has vindicated the self-respect of the country and the dignity of the nation by rejecting the Viceroy's offer to join the Interim Government under conditions which, to say the least, were ridiculous. Balance of power is in the blood of every Britisher. They are at it in Europe even today. "Divide and rule" is an aspect of keeping the balance of power and they have been playing this game in India ever

17 15

since they set foot on this country. There is no other explanation for not allowing a nationalist Muslim to be included in the quota allowed for the Congress. The Britisher wants to bolster up a communal organisation and they have now concentrated on one community, the Muslim, and ignored Muslims who are not communal-minded. I have however, a feeling that although the Congress High Command was quite in order in insisting on the inclusion of a nationalist Muslim, nationalist Muslim leaders could make a sacrifice and they might have with one voice asked the Congress High Command not to insist on a nationalist Muslim on the Interim Government for the sake of the freedom of our country and the freedom of the world which depends on the freedom of the 400 millions of this country. We Indian Christians would not have complained if it was absolutely essential for a compromise that Indian Christians should stand out of the Interim Government. It was very nice of the Congress to have suggested the names of two Indian Christians including a lady. If anything we Indian Christians can do or refrain from doing for the freedom of this country we are prepared to do it. I have every faith in the Congress High Command and in a national Government led by the High Command that there will be no discrimination against any community.

I am, however, glad that the Viceroy at the end did not play into the League's hands and put them up in power. The League and the British Government will certainly stand condemned in the eyes of the world.

Yours sincerely,

K Ray

813 16

B. T. B. INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT No.

Recd. at ____ H. ____ M. | Sent at ____ H. ____ M.

From ____ | To ____

By ____ | By ____

X LC KODAIKANAL 28 50

VALLABHAI PATEL CONGRESS WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBER DELHI =

TO REMIND YOU OF MY REQUEST TO RETURN LEADING INDIA

CHRISTIANS TO CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND YOUR KIND PROMISE YOU

WILL ATTEND TO IT I AM WILLING TO TO SERVE ON THE CONSTITUENT.

ASSEMBLY = V K JOHN MATHAI LEGISLTIVE COUNCIL FEDERATION INDIAN

CHRISTIANS = \ 112 =

Indian Press Calcutta—No. 18 (5167/B-5)

Federation of Indian Christians

17

PRESIDENT:
MR. V. K. JOHN, B.A., B.L., (MADRAS)
LL.D. (LONDON), BARRISTER-AT-LAW.
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AND
MR. A. D'SOUZA, B.A., B.L.

Office:
ANDHRA INSURANCE BUILDINGS,
THAMBU CHETTY STREET, MADRAS.

Date 25th June 1946.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL:

THE HON'BLE
SIR DAVID DEVADOSS, B.A.,B.L.,
Barrister-at-Law, Member, Council of State

LT.-COL. DR. J. C. CHATTERJEE, M.A., D.LITT., M.L.A. (CENTRAL),
Vice-Chancellor, Agra University.

DR. M. J. SAMUEL, M.L.A. (MADRAS) *Secretary, Madras Legislature Indian Christian Group.*

DEWAN BAHADUR
A. APPADURAI PILLAI, M.A., I.S.O.,
EX-M.L.A. (MADRAS)

M[illegible] S. J. GONSALVES, B.A., B.L., EX-M.L.C.
(MADRAS)

MR. J. L. P. ROCHE VICTORIA, M.L.C.(MADRAS)
Chairman, Tuticorin Municipality

RAO SAHEB J. RAJA ROW, EX-M.L.A.
(MADRAS)

MR. D. R. ISAAC, B.A., B.Ed., EX-M.L.A.
(MADRAS)

MR. V. CHAKKARAI CHETTY, B.A., B.L.,
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(MADRAS) *Minister, Local Self-Government*

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A. SAVARINATHAN PILLAI, B.A., *President, Indian Christian Labour Union, Coimbatore*

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(MADRAS)

MR. M. S. SRESHTA, EX-M.L.C. (MADRAS)
Vice-President, South Canara Catholic Association

DR. D. S. RAMACHANDRA RAO, M.A., M.D.,
M.L.A. (MADRAS)

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EX-M.L.A. (BOMBAY)

MR. K. RALLIARAM, EX-M.L.A. (PUNJAB)

THE HON'BLE
DEWAN BAHADUR S. P. SINGHA, M.L.A.
(PUNJAB), *Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Punjab*

MR. C. GOLDSMITH, EX-M.L.A. (ASSAM)

MR. T. J. M. WILSON, B.A. LL.B., M.L.A.
(MADRAS)

DR. JOSEPH A. D'SOUZA, M.L.A. (BOMBAY)
Ex-Mayor of Bambay

DR. J. A. COLLACO, L.M.S., EX-M.L.A.
(BOMBAY) J. P., *Ex-Mayor of Bombay*

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(MADRAS)

MR. HARI PANI JENNAH, EX-M.L.A. (ORISSA)

MR. J. D. MARAK, EX-M.L.A. (ASSAM)

REV. S. K. TARAFDAR, EX-M.L.C. (BIHAR)

MR. L. C. PAIS, B.A., B.L., M.L.A. (MADRAS)

Rajkumari Amritkour,
Mahatma Gandhi's Camp,
New Delhi.

"Roslyn",
St. Mary's Road,
Kodaikanal.

Dear Rajkumari,

I wrote to Sardar Vallabhai Patel that it would be very nice of the Congress if the Congress will find places for seven or eight Indian Christians in the Constituent Assembly. Among the names suggested by me is your dear brother Sir Maharaj Singh. The Sardar replied that the Congress will see to it. I have made a special study of constitutional law. You might know I am a Doctor of Laws of the University of London, graduate in Law of the University of Madras and a Barrister-at-Law

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with Ist class honours in every paper I sat for the bar examinations. I wanted to compete for Tagore Law Lectures in Constitutional Law when I was reading for the bar in England and I made an intensive study of Constitutional Law but later I had to give up the idea as I was too busy in the profession. I am President of the Federation of Indian Christians and Leader of the Madras Legislature Indian Christian Group. Although I am as national-minded as any Congressman I am not a member of the Congress. It may be an advantage for persons like Sir Maharaj Singh and myself to be outside the Congress as our statements on public questions in support of the position taken up by the Congress carry more weight than they would if we were members of the Congress. I supported Indian Christian candidates for election to the Madras Legislative Assembly on the Congress ticket and a few of them who were returned on the Congress ticket owe their return to my efforts. I have a scheme for the solution of the communal problem. I would request you to put in a word to the Congress High Command to include my name among those recommended by them for election from to the Constituent Assembly from Madras. I care for it only from the point of view of service to the country.

Yours sincerely,

VK Iyer

DR. V. K. JOHN, M.L.C.
BARRISTER-AT-LAW

RESIDENCE: "Dadnor"
Nungambakkam High Road,
Cathedral P.O.
PHONE: 8421

PHONE: 4015
Chambers
Andhra Insurance Buildings
Thambu Chetty Street,
G. T., Madras.

19

16th June 1946.

21

Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Member,
Congress High Command,
New Delhi.

"Roslyn"
St. Mary's Road,
Kodaikanal.

My dear Sardar,

I am much obliged for your letter dated 10th inst. in which you say that my "suggestions regarding the Indian Christian representation in the Constituent Assembly will be duly considered when the proper time comes" and you will "try to see that due proportion of representation is provided for in that body." You have also expressed your hope that there will be no difficulty in returning good men from Indian Christians to the Constituent Assembly and the names suggested by me in my letter "are indeed unexceptionable." I suggest that the practical way is to give the names of Indian Christian leaders and instruct ~~the~~ Congressmen in the various assemblies to return them. Perhaps you will instruct Congressmen in the Madras Legislative Assembly to return at least two Indian Christians and Congressmen in six other legislative assemblies to return one

20

Indian Christian each.

Yours sincerely,

V K Idris

21

Camp: Birla House,
Albuquerque Road,
New Delhi.
16th June 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. Your suggestions regarding the Indian Christian representation in the Constituent Assembly will be duly considered when the proper time comes and we shall try to see that due proportion of representation is provided for in that body. The question of the election of representatives to the Constituent Assembly will, however, depend upon the members of the Assembly, who will be asked to elect by proportional representation with a single transferable vote and it is hoped that this method will secure proper representation. The names suggested by you are indeed unexceptionable but much will depend upon the electors' choice. We hope that there will be no difficulty in returning good men from your community.

Yours sincerely,

[illegible]

Federation of Indian Christians

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PRESIDENT:
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Date 2nd June 194 6

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Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Member,
Congress High Command,
New Delhi.

"Roslyn"
St. Mary's Road,
Kodaikanal,
S. India.

My dear Sardar,

Many thanks for your letter in reply to mine dated 17th ultimo. in which I requested you to keep in mind the name of an Indian Christian as a member of the Interim Government at the centre. I am much obliged that you should say, "As a matter of fact, we would have done so even if the suggestion had not been made."

I have every confidence in the Congress High Command and I am writing this letter to request you to be so good as to find a few places for Indian Christian leaders in the

constituent assembly. The community will be deeply grateful if the Congress can find at least seven or eight Indian-Christian members for the constituent assembly. There are many eminent Indian Christians who are all highly national minded, though not members of the Congress.

I would suggest the names of Raja Sir Maharaj Singh from U.P., Dr. Joseph Alban D'souza, M.L.A., Ex-Mayor of Bombay, Dewan Bahadur S.P. Sinha, Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Punjab, Dr. H.C. Mookherjee, Ex-M.L.A., Bengal, Lt.Col. Dr. J.C. Chatterjee, M.L.A., Vice Chancellor, Agra University and Dr. John Mathai, Director of Tatas and Ex-President of the Tariff Board.

If you want me to serve on the constituent assembly I shall be glad to do so. Indian Christian community is in a majority in South India and you might like to have one or two Indian Christians from South India. I have made a special study of constitutional law and it might interest you to know that I am a Doctor of Laws of the University of London and a Barrister-at-Law with first class honours in every paper I offered for the bar examination. I stood first in the first class for the LL.B. Hons. of the London University which I

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took as a qualifying exam. I am also a graduate in law of the Madras University. I made a special study of constitutional law while I was reading for the bar with a view to compete for Tagore Law Lectures. I stood first in the first class in ~~the~~ constituional law at the bar examinations. I could not, however, find time to compete for Tagore Law Lectures although I prepared a skeleton thesis on constitutional law.

I have advanced a scheme for the solution of communal problem ~~in this country~~. You know my political views. I yield to none in my passion for the freedom of ~~this~~ our country. I am a member of the Legislative Council, Madras. I am the leader of the Madras Legislature Indian Christian group and I am President of the Federation of Indian Christians. If you find better persons than myself please do not suggest my name but if you think I shall be of assistance I am prepared to serve on the constituent assembly. From South India you might also consider the name of Mr. M. Rathnaswamy, Vice Chancellor of Annamalai University. Mr. Rathnaswamy has made a study of constitutional law. That he is a retired Government servant may not a point against him.

25

His public utterances however do not show that he is highly national minded. He is sectarian minded and is against Catholics being in the same association with non-Catholics. Some of these may perhaps be considerations for electing him as a member of the constituent assembly.

I might add that as the leader of the Madras Legislature Group I might easily get elected to the constituent assembly by the votes of the Indian Christian members of the assembly if they are given freedom to vote as they like. But the majority of Indian Christian members are members of the Congress whom I myself supported in elections, and they may be guided by ~~the~~ instructions given by the High Command or the local Congress leaders and may not have the freedom to vote for me. Kindly do what you consider necessary. I have only the interest of the country at heart. I do not seek election for any personal advantage for myself.

Yours sincerely,

OK Mn

25/A

26

Women

29 X 26

13th July 46

Dear Sister,

I have received your letter of 11th inst. The selections for nominations to the Constituent Assembly were made by the Working Committee of the Congress at Delhi in the last week of June and these names were communicated to the various Provincial Congress Assembly Parties by the General Secretary of the Congress before the end of June. Your letter suggesting the inclusion of some names from the N.C.W.I. is too late and I regret to say that it is not possible for me now to do anything in the matter. The Working Committee had finished its work and dispersed long before your letter was received. Personally I have no authority to make any changes in the selections made by the Working Committee. If your letter had been received earlier, it would have been placed before the Working Committee for consideration. Under the circumstances, I am sorry to say that it is not possible now to do anything in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Smt. Man Mohini Sahgal,
Hon. General Secretary, National Council of Women in India

National Council of Women in India.

27

Dinshaw Manor
Owen Dunn Road.
Bombay.
11th July 1946

Dear Sardar Patel,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of the National Council of Women in India and I trust you will excuse me for bothering you when we know you are occupied with vital and important work.

As you know this organisation has a record of social service for a long period to its credit and has devoted its energies for constructive work. Our constitution debars us from becoming a political organisation, but our efforts and energies have been directed to bringing our country on a basis of equality with other nations of the world.

[We understand that other bodies

2

are to be invited by the Congress for the Constituent Assembly and that women are also to be selected. If this is correct we feel that the N. C. W. I. should also be given an opportunity of having at least some members appointed.

We hear that the final selection by the Congress is to be made by the 14th of this month. We wanted to meet you personally and talk it over with you, but we realise how busy you must be these days. As the time is very short I have taken the liberty of writing to you.

Yours Sincerely
Kamalnishi Sahgal.

Hon. General Secretary.

28/1A

32

Harijan

29

33

Camp: New Delhi.

28th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 26th inst. Instructions have already been issued to the Congress Provincial Assembly Parties to make provision for Scheduled Caste candidates in proportion to their strength in the Assembly for representation in the Constituent Assembly. You need therefore have any anxiety on this account. The provinces will be able to select good men from amongst the Scheduled Castes and it is unnecessary to come to me in this connection. I am going to Bhopal tomorrow and from there will proceed to Bombay in the early part of the first week of July.

Copies of the results of primary and final elections of all provinces have been supplied to Shri Jagjivan Ram and you can get all the information from him.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Prithvi Singh AZAD, M.L.A.,
Sheeshmehal Rd.,
Lahore.

ओं

PRITHVI SINGH AZAD. M.L.A. SHEESHMEHAL ROAD, 30

LAHORE. 26.6.1946

Respected Sardar ji.

Now while the Congress has accepted the long term Plan I want to draw your kind attention towards Harijans' representation in the Constituent Assembly.

In the Cabinet Mission's long term proposals nothing has been mentioned about the Harijans. While I was at Delhi I saw Revered Bapu ji & your goodself in this connection. I was given an assurance that Harijan will be given their due share. Bapu ji's opinion was that Harijans would be given representation according to their population and the Congress would fix up their Quota. I request you to please issue instructions to all the Provincial Heads asking them that while electing members for the Constituent Assembly they must keep in view the quota of the Harijans. The opposition which we are facing from Ambedkar Party will be ended for ever provided a direction is issued by you as requested above.

The second and the most important point is that only efficient, tried and dependable Harijans should be sent in the Constituent Assembly. We are meeting at Patna on the 4th July. After the meeting either Shri Jagjivan Ram or I myself will see you with a list of the Harijan candidates for the Constituent assembly. But for the time being I would like to suggest the following names for the Constituent Assembly.

1. Shri Jagjivan Ram M.L.A. Kadamkuan, Patna.
2. Shri Radhanath Das M.L.A. Vivekanand Road, Calcutta.
3. Shri N.S. Kajrolkar M.L.A. Medines Street, Fort, Bombay.
4. Shri V.I. Muniswami Pillai M.L.A. Sathu Vilas, Ootacamund.
5. Shri H.J. Khandelkar M.L.A. Dewari, Nagpur.

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6. Shri Gridhari Lal M.L.A. Chakkan Mohalla, Dehra Dun.

7. Prithvi Singh Azad M.L.A. Shishmahal Road, Lahore

The above names are of those Harijans who are known to you and are connected with the congress for the last several years.

I requested you to please supply me with the results of primary and final election of all the Provinces which you have received in compliance with your circular letter. Please instruct your office to supply me with the required information.

An early reply is solicited.

Yours respectfully,

Prithvi Singh Azad

31/A

1 — 36

Business Community

32

Camp: New Delhi.

27th June 46

My dear Walchand,

I have received your wire of the 25th inst. In the Constituent Assembly, there are only 19 seats for Bombay, of which two have been reserved for the members of the Working Committee and making provision for such minorities as Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis, etc., there remains very few seats. The Scheduled Castes will take their due share and there remains very few for the whole province containing 4 Congress Provincial Committees. It is difficult therefore to think of anyone outside the Assembly or the Congress in the Constituent Assembly. We have left the choice in the hands of the Party itself.

Yours sincerely,

Seth Walchand Hirachand,
Construction House,
Ballard Estate, Bombay 1.

C.3.

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INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

No.

Received here at _____ H. _____ M.

X QL BOMBAY R 25 56 SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL BIRLA HOUSE

ALBUQUERQUE COKD NEW. I DELHI =

CONSIDER DESIRABLE INCLUDE NAMES OF MASTER VICEPRESIDENT

FEDERATION OF INDIAN CHAMBERS AND GAGANBHAI IN CONGRESS LIST FOR

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ESSENTIAL THAT VIEWPOINT OF INDIAN COMMERCE

AND INDUSTRY SHOULD ALSO BE REPRESENTED IN ASSEMBLY ESPECIALLY FOR

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if

CONSIDERATION OF INDUSTRIAL AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

= WALCHAND

35. 33/14

Hindu Mahasabha

34

4th July 46

5th

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 4th inst. ~~I have no recollection of having received any letter from Shri Bala.~~ I am busy from tomorrow with the Working Committee and A.I.C.C. meetings and therefore it will not be possible for me to give you any appointment till these meetings are over. If you want to meet me, you can do so after the 8th inst., by making an appointment on the telephone. My telephone number is 24101.

Yours sincerely,

Shri K.H. [redacted]dhere,
Devkaran Mansion,
45-47 Princess St.,
Bombay 2.

Branches :—Pandithan Temple Rd. P. O, Mattancheri, COCHIN, (Malabar) ★ 6, Karabala Mahammed St., CALCUTTA

K. H. DHAMDHERE

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Telegrams : " SUREWORK "
Telephone : No. 30683

DEVKARAN MANSION
45-47, PRINCESS STREET.

Ref. No. Personal

BOMBAY-2, 4th July 1946.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel ,
68, Marine Drive ,
Bombay

Revered Sardar Patel ,

My friend Mr. S. R. Date Editor of ' Kal ' a Marathi daily in Poona had lately writtenk to you requesting to favourably consider if the Congress can support the candidature of a few Hindu Sabha leaders being nominated on the Constituent Assembly . While Papers report the news of leaders of different groups or communities being approved or accepted by the Congress there had been no mention whatsoever about any Hindu Sabha leader - except perhaps Dr. Shamaprasad being supported by the Congress . No chance is left in the present conditions for any non-muslim to succeed fo r this race without the full support of the Congress .

I should therefore like to have an opportunity of a few minutes talk with your esteemed self on this subject in an informal way. Will you kindly let me know if you can allow me a suitable appointmant at your early liesure -- Excepting Saturday afternoon or evening

P.T.O.

36

For information I may add that I have been a member of the Working Committee of the All India Hindu Mahasabha and General Secretary of the Bombay Provincial Hindu Sabha since January 1945.

If you have given any appointment to Mr Mr. Date I may be allowed to accompany ~~to~~ him and if you have not done so upto now I can ask Mr. Date to come over with me if he is in Bombay by that time .

Yours truely,

K. H. Dhamdhere

63

General.

484 37

10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 4th inst. today sent through Vaikunthbhai Mehta. There is no room left for making any changes now, as the selections have already been made by the parties concerned. As it is, the number of candidates are more numerous and the seats are comparatively very few. Therefore it is not possible for me to do anything in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Maneklal H.Vakil,
Senior Federal Advocate,
Kachery Corner,
Facing Kashmiri Gate,
Delhi.

38

Vaikunth L. Mehta

2, QUEEN'S GARDENS

Telephone: 1104.

POONA.....1946.

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39

MANEKLAL H. VAKIL
M. A., LL. B. (Bom.)
Advocate (O.S.)
F.R.E. Con. S. F.S.S. (Lond.)
SENIOR FEDERAL ADVOCATE.

Telephone { 5218 (DELHI)
42810 (BOMBAY)
KACHERY CORNER,
FACING KASHMIRI GATE,
DELHI, 4th July, 1946

My dear Vallabhbhai,

If there be room for me as an expert on Constitutional Laws from the Bombay Province, I shall be glad to be of service to the Congress party by way of a member on the Constituent Assembly.

With regards to self & Pt. Jawaharlal believe.

Yours Sincerely
Manekbal Vakil

To
H. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Bombay.

40

॥ श्रीः ॥

ALL-INDIA SANATANI DAL

GUJARAT PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE.

अखिल भारतीय सनातनो दलः गुजरात प्रान्तीय समिति।

धर्मकी जय हो। अधर्मका ह्रास हो। रामबलीजी हॉल अहमदाबाद। प्राणीओंमें सद्भावना हो। विश्वका कल्याण हो।

Telegrams : Rambali-Hall.
Telephone : 3088.

Akasheth Street,
Ahmedabad, 7-7-1946

Dear Sir,

We submit that for the all-round good of the people all parties in the country should at least be represented in the Constituent Assembly that is to be constituted very soon. Hence the orthodox Hindu millions should also be represented there and we request that in justice and fair play to them your worthself as a leader will see to it that some orthodox or conservative Hindus may be appointed to the Assembly. May we recommend to you in this connection the name of Prof. J.B. Dunkel M.A. the president of this committee as well as of the Bombay Provincial Dharma Sangh who is an old public worker and known student of politics and will be very helpful in the deliberations of the Con. Assembly?

Yours faithfully.

D.B. Mahulikar
Secretary.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT. 52 41

C.

O KC

NOTICE.
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.

Charges to pay.
Rs. As. 28

TEL 10 JLY 46 BOMBAY

Handed in at (Office of Origin) Dharwar Date. Hour. 10-15 Service Instructions

To Sardar Vallabhbhai Words 13 H. 10 M.
Congress House Bombay

we strongly urge on behalf of unification league your direction to madras assembly accept jinnay Hegdes nomination to Constituient assembly siddameti gajender

N. B.—The name of the Sender should be written after the text.

69

State

41/A

47

3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 29th June. I was invited by the Nawab of Bhopal to discuss several questions, including the representation of States to the Constituent Assembly, arising out of the proposed transfer of power from British to Indian hands.

We have not gone into the details of the question of representation, particularly about the communal ratio, but this is left to be discussed by the Negotiating Committee at the proper time. I notice from your letter that the Government of Nizam's State proposes to give 50% to the Hindus and 50% to Muslims. I do not know on what source your information is based. But I should like to know more details about it, so as to be able to use that information with a sense of accuracy. Often such reports appear to be false and we cannot act upon them.

About the reports regarding immediate introduction of reforms in

हिंदुस्थानचें स्वातंत्र्य आणि हैदराबादमध्यें जबाबदार राज्यपद्धति हेंच आपलें ध्येय आहे ! 44

स्वामी रामानंदतीर्थ

C/O. Dr. G.S.Melkote,
Narayanguda, Hyderabad-Dn. हैदराबाद (दक्षिण)

क्रमांक 479.

ता. 29th June, 46.

Dear Sardarji,

When I met you last time in Delhi, I tried to post you with the necessary information regarding Hyderabad problem. I read in the news-paper day before that you were proceeding to Bhopal to dis-cuss the question of the representation of the States to the Constituent Assembly. I, therefore, thought it necessary to give you a correct idea of what is happening in Hyderabad. Hyderabad has a population of and is entitled to send seventeen members. The Government proposes to nominate them probably in the proportion 50/ 50 for Hindus and Muslims. The population of the Muslims is about 11% according to the census of 1940. In as much as the representation to the Constituent Assembly is given on the population basis, the parity between Hindus and Muslims is untenable. I am sure that -

(१) स्टेट कॉंग्रेसवरील बंदी उठविण्याचा प्रयत्न करा व जबाबदार राज्यपद्धतीच्या ध्येयाचा प्रसार करा.

the State also, we must await with interest the announcement, before we can express any opinion. It would indeed be good to hear that the change of conditions in India has been taken seriously by your State.

Yours sincerely,

Swami Ramananda Thirtha,
C/o Dr. G.S.Melkote,
Narayanguda,
Hyderabad-Dn.

स्वामी रामानंदतीर्थ
C/O. Dr. G.S.Melkote,
Narayanguda, Hyderabad-Dn. (दक्षिण)

क्रमांक 479. ता. 29th June, 46.

Dear Sardarji,

When I met you last time in Delhi, I tried to post you with the necessary information regarding Hyderabad problem. I read in the news-paper day before that you were proceeding to Bhopal to dis-cuss the question of the representation of the States to the Constituent Assembly. I, therefore, thought it necessary to give you a correct idea of what is happening in Hyderabad. Hyderabad has a population of and is entitled to send seventeen members. The Government proposes to nominate them probably in the proportion 50/ 50 for Hindus and Muslims. The population of the Muslims is about 11% according to the census of 1941. In as much as the representation to the Constituent Assembly is given on the population bases, the parity between Hindus and Muslims is untenable. I am sure that -

- you will emphasise this aspect whenever the necessity arises.

There is a talk of imminent introduction of reforms in the State. An announce-ment to this effect is expected within this week. I will send you a copy of it as soon as it is published.

With regards.

Yours Sincerely,

Swami Ramananda Tirtha

(१) स्टेट काँग्रेसवरील बंदी उठविण्याचा प्रयत्न करा व जबाबदार राज्यपद्धतीच्या ध्येयाचा प्रसार करा.

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451/A

BOMBAY.

46

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10th July 46

My dear Manubhai,

I have received your letter of the 8th inst. Before your letter was received, I had heard that they had already settled the names for the Constituent Assembly. This matter is left to the Party, and the Party Leader in consultation with the Presidents of the Provincial Congress Committees concerned has settled this affair. From the Centre, the Working Committee has issued instructions to make due provision for certain minorities. The rest is left to the Party. As this was disposed of by the Working Committee, I have no say in the matter. Instructions were communicated directly by the General Secretary. However, if I had received your letter earlier, perhaps I would have been able to influence them. When the proper time comes, a Committee of economic experts will be appointed for advice and we shall then see what can be done.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Manu Subedar, M.L.A.
(Central),
Kodak House,
Hornby Rd., Bombay 1.

KODAK HOUSE,
HORNBY ROAD, FORT.
TELEPHONE: 26372
TELEGRAMS: CROWNALUCO

BOMBAY 8th July 1946

My dear Sardarsaheb,

I now hear that my name is not in the list of persons nominated for the Constituent Assembly from Bombay Province.

I am sure the decision taken by the High Command on this issue is a wise one, but it is necessary to point out two or three special circumstances. I am one of the seventy elected men in the General (non-Muslim) seats of the Central Assembly, and it would be strange if I do not figure amongst the number three times this much.

You would recall the commercial safeguards campaign and the general criticism and watchfulness in financial and economic matters in the Assembly questions and debates. I could reconcile myself to the fact that both in Simla and in Delhi in 1945 and 1946 my name did not emanate from the Congress for

48

inclusion in the interim Executive Council, because, at that time outstanding political leaders had to be taken. But it is much more serious if the Indian National Congress do not recognize the special aptitude for financial and economic issues arising in connection with the constitution, when making a selection for the Constituent Assembly. It may not be known to you that for the last twelve years I have continuously interpreted the Government of India Act and its provisions and the economic and financial implications of laws in British India in their application to Indian States.

In your letter dated 4-3-1946 addressed to me, you were kind enough to say about me:

> "If ever you want my assistance in any matter, you can write to me without any hesitation. In the Party there, on all economic subjects, we have to rely on you; you are the only expert on whom we can count as the watchman of our interest."

The question of Bretton Woods, sterling balances, treaty with the United Kingdom and how to

56 49

deal with British vested interests in India, would not be issues of policy to be determined by an interim committee. According to Attlee's declaration, a treaty would have to be made with the United Kingdom on issues arising out of the transfer of power. I cannot help thinking that, with the special knowledge and observation on these topics running into thirty years, I would be of more use to the Congress than some of the names, which I hear as eligible for inblusion. I am writing this in order that all relevant facts should be in your hands before you take the final decision.

Yours respectfully,
Mann Subedar

Sardarsaheb Vallabhbhai J. Patel,
Bombay.

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SG

10th July 46

Dear Friend,

I have received your letter of the 8th inst.

The selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly has been left to the Congress Assembly Parties in the provinces. The Working Committee has only issued general instructions to provide for adequate representation of minorities and special interests, if any. In sofar as representation to Scheduled Castes is concerned, it will be according to their numerical strength in the provincial assembly, but the choice of candidates is in the hands of the Party. If, therefore, you want to go to the Constituent Assembly, you must approach the Leader of the Congress Assembly Party in the province.

Yours sincerely,

Shri R.S.Nekaljay,
The Depressed India Assoc. Trust,
Rascol Bldg.,
Clarke Rd.,
P.O.Jacob Circle, BOMBAY.

The Depressed India Association Trust.

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J. T. GAIKWAD. Esq.

Our Ref. No. SPL/1

Your Ref. No. Nil.

Office:-
Rasool Building, Clarke Road,
P. O. Jacob Circle.

Bombay 8th July 1946.

Dear Sir,

Re; Election of the representatives on the Constituent Assembly allotted to the General Community in the Province of Bombay.

* * * * * * * * * * * * * *

I beg to take this opportunity in approaching you with the following facts for your favourable consideration.

You may be aware that myself a leading veteran member of the 'Harijan' community and in the past have represented them both on the Bombay Legislative Council and the Bombay Municipal Corporation. In the year 1930, I was elected as President of the All India Depressed Classes Conference, held at Amraoti, C.P.,

So far I have no connection with any political body or Associations of Harajans in the Province of Bombay, nor the Scheduled Caste Federation of Dr. Ambedkar, but have been so far working independently and always in co-operation with the Congress leaders.

My activities for the betterment and uplift of the Harijan are well known to, Mahatma Gandhiji, Sjt. Balasaheb Kher, Sir, P. Thakurdass kt, Dr. Jivraj Mehta, Sjt. S.K. Patel, Sjt. S.L. Silam, Sjt Khimji M. Bhujporia and Dr. Sathe.

As the Congress has decided to take some non-Assembly members to serve in the Constituent Assembly, I beg to offer my services.

After taking my long public services into due consideration, you will be pleased to help me in all possible manner and support my candidature.

With due respect, and kind regards,

To,
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
68, Marine Drive
Bombay.

Yours Truly,

(R.S. Nekaljay)

3rd July 46.

Personal.

Dear friend,—

I have received your letter of the 27th June, delivered to me last night. About your ability and qualifications, there can be no two opinions. But there are only limited number of seats and after making adequate provisions for minorities, women and special interests, there remains only a few seats, in which a large number of claimants have to be accommodated and I am afraid we will have to disappoint many. I find that four Congress provinces have to be accommodated and the seats for this purpose are only 10, in which Maharashtra claims more than half. I regret my inability to do anything in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Shri G.S.Mahajani,
Fergusson College,
POONA 4.

Fergusson College,
Poona 4.
27th June 1946.

Dear Sardar Vallabh bhai,

In the light of the view that some members outside the Congress M.L.A.s might be included in the list of representatives to the Constituent Assembly I wonder whether you will please consider my name in that connection.

2. I should not have written this, if the choice were to be based on party lines; for, you are perhaps aware that I happen to be alone (in both the Houses of the Bombay Legislature) -- elected on the Liberal Ticket.

3. In my own modest way, I have brought out some pamphlets, e.g.

i. Liberals and the Congress. (This was first published in the Bombay Chronicle in four instalments)

ii. Education and Democracy with a foreword by Mr.S.V.Mukerji, former Minister in Baroda Govt.

iii. The Problem of Minorities and Constitutional Democracy as its Solution. with a foreword by Sir Chimanlal Setalwad.

iv. The Defence Problem of India. (Talk given to the Rotary Club of Poona, yet to be printed).

4. I have been taking a somewhat leading part in the All India Liberal Federation. I am a member of its Council. I was the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Provincial --
Session

Session at Satara. At the Silver Jubilee Session of the Federation at Lahore(March 1945), as Pandit Kunzuru was not in India, I had the privilege of moving the Resolution of Defence - which for the first time demanded complete Indianization of the -- Defence Services within a specified time.

5. After sixteen years of Principalship of Fergusson College, I recently -- relinquished that office with a view to - devoting more time as M.L.C. to the political work.

With kind regards,

Yours Sincerely

G. D. Makajani.

6. In the Bombay Council again, I moved two non-official resolutions —

(a) re military training in Colleges
— this was accepted by the Congress Govt;

& (b) re the establishment of additional Universities in this Province
— this led, in a sense, to the Maharashtra Univ. Committee.

G. D. M.

64 55 162

INDIAN POSTS AND [redacted] TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

164

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.

Handed in at Office of Calcutta Rec'd Dely. Rec'd Wireless No. Service Instructions. PRE Words.

Rec'd. here at 18 H. M.

TO

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

Ayfy

Please consider inclusion of doctor mahajani in Constituent Assembly Stop mahajani close friend of Pannalal Barupal

56

Camp: New Delhi.

27th June 46

Dear Mr. Karmarkar,

I have your telegram of the 26th inst. The election to the Constituent Assembly rests with the Party and we do not propose to interfere in the matter. There are very few seats and many candidates. Therefore we have left the thing entirely to the Party.

Yours sincerely,

Shri D.P.Karmarkar,
Dharwar.

C. S.

930 57

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

No.

Received here at ____ H. ____ M.

X KI DHARWAR 26 22 SARDAR VALLABHABHAI PATIL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI =

RESPECTFULLY OFFER HUMBLE SERVICES FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY IF OTHERWISE CONSIDRED FIT = D P KARAMARKAR =

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign Telegrams office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any inquiry respecting this telegram.

Eden Press, Calcutta—No. 54 (5173 B.22) 8.44—25,000 Bks.

Camp: New Delhi.
27th June 46

Dear Mr.Nimbkar,

I have received your telegram of the 26th inst. I am glad you have given up your fast. I do not understand the technique of fast or its efficacy and therefore I express no opinion about the matter. Whether your fast was justified or not, I am not in a position to say, nor do I know whether it has done any good to the labour cause.

The election to the Constituent Assembly rests with the parties in the Assembly but I understand that all Congress Assembly Parties will take due notice of the fact that labour interests should be properly represented. General directions will be issued in this connection.

yours sincerely,

Shri R.S.Nimbkar,
C/o B.P.C.C.,
BOMBAY 4.

C.3.

1380 - 59

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

No.

Received here at_____ H. _____ M.

Y NF BOMBAY DR 26 28 SARDAR PATEL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI

= GAVE UP FAST UPON APPOINTMENT COURT OF ENQUIRY STOP SUGGEST

WORKING COMMITTEE THROUGH YOU ELECTION LABOUR INTERESTS CONSTITUENT

ASSEMBLY = NIMBKAR =

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

G. & M. G. Ltd., Lahore—E570—20-4-46—15,000 Bks.

Camp: New Delhi.
26th June 1946.

My dear Govindlal,

I have received your telegram of the 25th inst. just now. No instructions are to be issued from the top about the Constituent Assembly elections. You must approach the local Assembly Party and work your way through them. But I think it will be difficult because the number is very small. We have also in addition to provide for small minorities like Parsis, Anglo-Indians, Christians and Women, besides accommodating the Working Committee members. This leaves very little room.

Yours sincerely,,

Hon. Govindlal Shivlal Motilal,
15 Lands End Rd.,
Malabar Hill, BOMBAY 6.

C.3.

61

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

No.

Received here at _____ H. _____ M.

X TA BOMBAY 25 15 SARDAR PATELL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI =

DESIRE SERVING ON CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY PLEASE CONSIDER = GOVINDLAL

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only, office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

G. & M. G. Ltd., Lahore—E570—20-4-46—15,000 Bks.

21

61/A

BENGAL

A 32 624

9TH JULY 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst.

The question of election to the Constituent Assembly has been left to the local Congress Assembly Party. We have issued instructions only to see that adequate provision is made for the minorities. The rest is left to the local party. I regret I am not, therefore, in a position to do anything in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Maharajadhiraja Bahadur of Burdwan,
Artab Villa,
14/1 Burdwan Road,
Alipore,
Calcutta.

MAHARAJADHIRAJA BAHADUR OF BURDWAN

AFTAB VILLA. 63
14/1. BURDWAN ROAD.
ALIPORE.
CALCUTTA

3rd. July, 1946.

Dear Sardar Patel,

I understand that in the forthcoming session of the A.I.C.C. the questions of the nationalisation of land and mining rights may be raised in view of similar matters awaiting consideration in the different provincial legislatures. From my talk with you at Calcutta and at New Delhi I gathered that on such vital issues the Congress Working Committee would prefer to give directives to the Provinces ensuring justice to all parties and interests. In this context, it is also to be discussed if such vital legislation would be pushed throygh in the present constitutional set-up or if it would be held up for final decision by the National Government. All this would naturally be considered by the A.I.C.C. or the Working Committee, whenever such questions will come up for discussion, but I do not know if the A.I.C.C. in its present session will have time to devote consideration to the questions.

You were kind enough to assure us that

justice and fairness would be shown to all parties and interests in the event of the nationalisation of lands and mining rights and that nothing would be done hurriedly and without giving the parties concerned an opportunity to place their case before the Congress. It will be extremely helpful if directives are sent out from the Congress Working Committee, as and when plans of nationalisation mature in the provinces. We consider it essential that there should be a uniform policy in all provinces in the matter of public acquisition of rights in or iver land, and the Congress legislatures, its responsibilities are great and grave. I trust the matter will receive your careful consideration.

Yours sincerely,

M. Ansari

Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
C/o, Bombay Provincial Congress Committee,
BOMBAY.

65

Camp: New Delhi.

28th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 20th inst. I am glad to hear that my last letter has been a source of some consolation to your dear unfortunate daughter. Time is the only remedy which heals such hard woes and I hope and pray that she will turn her mind to the service of the poor, which will give her considerable relief so as to forget her grief in course of time.

The election to the Constituent Assembly has been left to the Provincial Congress Assembly Parties. We are not issuing any directions from above. Time for that is too short. Therefore, it is not possible for me to do anything in the matter. The matter rests with Shri Kiran Shankar Roy, who is the leader of the party. If you approach him, he may be able to help you.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. D.N.Banerjee,
20 Umesh Datta Rd.,
Bakshi Bazaar,
DACCA.

D. N. Banerjee
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF DACCA.

20 Umesh Dalla Road
Bakshi Bazar, DACCA. 66

Dated 20th June 1946

Revered Sir,

I duly received your very kind and sympathetic letter of condolence, dated the 30th ultimo. The letter has been, ~~ever~~ since it arrived, a source of inspiration to me as well as to my unfortunate daughter at this time of our mental agony. Although my daughter has been ill ever since she heard the news of her beloved husband's death and has been daily having hysterical fits a number of times, she has kept your letter below her pillow and by this time, read it at least 20 times. Particularly when I have written about your great and patriotic daughter has moved my daughter very much. She has often taken me to task for having not married two years ago, and asked me why I did not act like you. In reply, I have pointed out to her the great difference between yourself and myself, but have asked her to emulate the example of your great daughter. There is no doubt about the fact that your letter has profoundly influenced my daughter and that it will produce a

P.T.O.

permanent effect upon her mind. It is bound to influence, when she gains back her normal health, her whole future career. I crave for your good wishes and blessings for her.

I should like to write to you about another matter. I only hope that you will kindly not laugh at the idea. The Government of Bengal issued a Press Note yesterday, asking the Bengal Legislative Assembly to elect on the 10th of July next 27 "General" Representatives and 33 Muslim Representatives to the Lower Constituent Assembly. All nominations are to be submitted before 11 A.M. on 3rd July. Among other things, the Press Note says that "any person shall be eligible for election, provided that he is duly nominated by one member of the Bengal Legislative Assembly and seconded by another member," and provided further that he has not been proposed for candidature to represent any other Province, and that he is willing to serve as a representative of the Province," etc. The expression "any person" is significant. Presumably the idea is that for the membership of the Lower Consti-

D. N. Banerjee
HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF DACCA.

(3)

68

DACCA.

Dated ____ 194

tient Assembly is not to be restricted to the members of the Provincial Legislative Assemblies. Do you think Nit, as a student of Constitutional Law and Comparative Politics during the last 30 years and as a university teacher of Political Theory and Political Institutions during the last twenty-six years and a half — I am 51 now —, I can be of any use in the Union Constituent Assembly? I may kindly be permitted to mention here Nit I am an author of five books, four of which have been published by Messrs Longmans, Green & Co. Ltd, and of over 65 articles, on Constitutional, political and economic questions, and Nit in December last the Indian Political Science Association elected me at its (last) Session at Annamalai University, Madras, its President for the current year and the President for its next Annual Conference. You may remember Nit I had the honour of presenting to you my latest (and smallest) work entitled

69 "Pakistan & Federation?", (4) some time ago. Not book contains my political views. I am a strong federationist, and believe in ultimate All-India Federation. It you kindly think Not I can be I some case - as a member of the Indian Constituent Assembly, I would request you to be so good as to issue, as early as possible, necessary instructions to Dr Prafulla Ch. Ghosh and Mr Kiran Sankar Roy, leader of the Congress Party in the Bengal Legislative Assembly, both of whom know me, so that I might be elected by the "General" members of the Bengal Legislative Assembly. To be frank, I am seeking this honour and favour, partly with a view to securing through a diversion, an "escape" from the present state of my mind, and partly with a view to add utilizing, for the service of my Motherland, the knowledge I have acquired of comparative Constitutional Law and Practice during the last 30 years. Kindly do not misinterpret it as a piece of impertinent vanity if I say that I can be of some service as a member of the Indian Constituent Assembly. I shall be glad to be favoured with an early reply to this letter. Trust you are doing well. Kindly accept my profoundest greetings.

With highest regards,
Yours Sincerely,
D. N. Banerjee

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
New Delhi

B. T. B.

87 C2649 70

No.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Recd. at 12 45 H. M.	Sent at H. M.
From Jbp 135	To
By	By

Office Stamp.

O MD Jubbulpore 11 Two addls 53

[illegible]

71

10th July

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 8th inst. just now. The question of selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly is left to the Provincial Assembly Party by the Working Committee. Instructions have been given by it for making adequate provision for the minorities. Subject to that, the rest is left to the provincial assembly party entirely and I have no voice in the matter. I am therefore not in a position to do anything in the matter referred to by you. The appropriateness of the question therefore does not arise.

Yours sincerely,

Shri M.G.Datar,
Manager,
Tarun Bharat,
Nagpur City.

Telegrams:
'TARUN BHARAT'

TARUN BHARAT

Telephone
670

(The first Marathi and foremost daily in C. P. & Berar, H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions, Central India and Khandesh.)

Published under the auspices of 'Narkesari Smarak Mandal'

Organiser: E. S. Patwardhan

Editor: G. T. Madkholkar

Manager: M. G. Datar

72

Ref. No. [illegible] Nagpur City, 8/7/46

Dear Sardarsahib.

I am taking rather an unusual step in writing to you in this fashion. But the point which has been agitating my mind so many days left me no alternative & so I make bold to approach you.

I don't know whether you know me. I belong to the so called 'Khare group here' though on many matters we don't agree with Dr. Khare. I am in the Congress ever since 1920 Nagpur session. I left College at the call of the nation & since then have been connected with the Tilak Vidyalaya Nagpur which has done a great deal of spade work in this province in general & Nagpur in particular

P.T.O

73 The school outlived its usefulness after 1932 when all its purposes were complicated. It was connected with the Congress organisation during Barrister Abhyankar's regime & even when Dr. Khare held the premiership of Central Provinces. It was our misfortune to have to fight with the Ranka-Awari group and even now after the exit of Khare group the same rowdy element is proving troublesome to Wardha group as it is called.

My friend & colleague Mr. E.S. Patwardhan who had been secretary of the P.C.C. during Abhyankar & Khare's presidentship of Congress organisation is now there in the picture. His only sin was he refused to submit to the domination of Awari-Salve municipal bandh. He is the one person in the entire province who knows every small detail of Congress in the province but what is the position is in today. Since the starting of this paper we are working here but we feel that much of what is achieved today is due to the patient work of Tilak's disciples & those of us who worked under Abhyankar & Khare.

Telegrams:
'TARUN BHARAT'

TARUN BHARAT

Telephone
670

(The first Marathi and foremost daily in C. P. & Berar, H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions, Central India and Khandesh.)

Published under the auspices of 'Narkesari Smarak Mandal'

Organiser : E. S. Patwardhan

Editor : G. T. Madkholkar

Manager : M. G. Datar

74

Ref. No. 3

Dt. Nagpur City,

It is not my intention, however, to give you this information for the purpose of asking any favour for us. I have given you the background of the picture & now proceed with the matter I wish to stress.

I hope you are in the know of all the forces that are working in the provincial congress affairs here. You are also aware of the Gandhi-Khan meeting at Sodepur. I was told that Dr. Khan met you twice in New Delhi recently. Now what we want is that unless he is tied down to some public activity the Hindu Sabha people are after him to rope him in & we don't like his joining the Hindu Mahasabha. He has resumed practice in Right Court (Chamber practice)

But I think if he is nominated to the Constituent Assembly from this province or any other – his experience as part of Indian member + Sten anti league outlook will be a great asset to the C. assembly. I am quite sure if a gesture of this nature is made he will be forced to be less anti congress + anti Gandhi in his talks + speeches + probably will be won back. the Congress will not be loser by that.

I shall therefore appeal to you to take a detached view of these matters and include his name in the list to be nominated from C.P. + Berar. It is an open secret that but for his help in the provincial election of the Central legislature Mr Manohar would not have been returned. His work for the Indian overseas has been unique.

Telegrams:
'TARUN BHARAT'

TARUN BHARAT

Telephone
670

(The first Marathi and foremost daily in C. P. & Berar, H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions, Central India and Khandesh.)

Published under the auspices of 'Narkesari Smarak Mandal'

Organiser: E. S. Patwardhan

Editor: G. T. Madkholkar

Manager: M. G. Dater

76

87

Ref. No. 5 Dt. Nagpur City,

Then while in office his help in the secure of release of Kolhi-Chinna prisoners & many other such incidents make his nomination an essential feature of the whole outlook. Congress is going to nominate some able outsiders & I think it will be quite in the fitness of things that Dr Khare is one of them. I am taking too much of your time I know. So without going more into the detail I shall once more request you to see that Dr Khare is given one seat on the Constituent Assembly. I am writing this without any body's suggestion. But I think I can claim a bit of privilege due to old association & known his long letter. (Aney-Khare-Kedar & Dr Gour) these four names will add to the dignity & personnel of the provincial representation.

77

After great deal of hesitation I thought I should write to you & leave it to you good sense to do as you need feel -

Yours respectfully
Mrs. Datar

78

87.

10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the ~~the~~ 4th inst.

The question of selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly is left to the Congress Assembly Party in the province. The Working Committee has issued directions for adequate provision being made for minorities and given the party freedom to elect members from outside the Congress. But the selection is left entirely to the party and I have no authority to interfere in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Shri V.K.Soman,
MAHEKAR. (Berar)

79
9 to 16

Respected Sir,

You will be surprised to receive this letter from a humble congress-man. I am writing this as a part of my duty.

I have to congratulate the working committee on its decision to adopt non party out-siders in the constituent Assembly. I do not know what out-siders have been proposed from Berar and Nagpur. I would like to propose the following out-siders from Berar and Nagpur, as competent-men for the job.

(1) M. S. Aney Alias Bapuji Aney of Yeotmal now Govt. of India Representative in Ceylon. He was the secy. to the Nehru committee. I think, I need not go in into details of his qualifications and expert as you know him thoroughly well. If the working committee has already suggested his name I have nothing more to say add. He will be a valuable asset when the Berar question and its relations with Nizam will be discussed.

(2) K.V. Brahma. Advocate Shantoli Nagpur is an eminent jurist. He is practicing in the Nagpur High court. He is the author of two standard works (1) on co-operation (2) Berar Tenancy Code an authority on co-operation and was connected with the movement in Berar from its beginning. He is a liberal in politics. If he is adopted as a member of the constituent Assembly from Nagpur, I am confident that the Assembly will realize that its choice was right and happy.

(3) Mr. P.B. Gole. Advocate Akola (Berar) An eminent congress man Ex minister C.P. and present M.L.A. of the Central Assembly. I need not write more about him as he is already known to you.

All the above three gentlemen though very competent are by nature non pushing and may perhaps

be poured over. So I have made myself bold to suggest their names as in my humble opinion the interest of Berar will be in very safe hands.

I hope you will please consider my humble suggestion though it may appear presumptuous to suggest to such a responsible body as your working committee - the above names but - I have to do this as a part of my duty as a Berari.

Hoping to be excused for the troubles and soliciting the favour of careful consideration of my suggestion.

Yours obediently
V. Rao

93 82

10th July 48

My dear Kumarappa,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst.

In the Constituent Assembly, the number of seats is very limited and the candidates are too many. I am glad you have declined. They have made accommodation for Rajkumari Amrit Kaur from C.P. and so it is not possible for me now to suggest any alteration. Besides, we cannot spare another seat for Mrs. Salve and hence it is better for me not to suggest anything to them now.

We have just finished the A.I.C.C. and the Working Committee meetings and therefore I have been able to reply to your letter today. Bapu left Bombay yesterday afternoon.

Hope you are doing well.

Yours sincerely,

Shri J.C.Kumarappa,
C/o Mrs. Appasamy,
Thirumalai Pillai Rd.,
Thyagarajanagar,
Madras.

THE ALL-INDIA VILLAGE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

President : MAHATMA GANDHI

Organiser & Secretary
J. C. KUMARAPPA

All communications should be addressed to
"The Secretary"
and not to individuals

83

C/o Hon. Kanungo,
Minister for Industries
Cuttack. Orissa

MAGANVADI
WARDHA C.P.

3 July 1946.

94

My dear Sardar,

I have been repeated asked if I would stand for the Constituent Assembly. I have persistently declined for various reasons, foremost amongst them is that I cannot abandon A.I.V.I.A. and am especially busy with it at the moment. Then again I do not believe in any representation on a communal basis.

In my place, I have suggested the names of our friends – Mr. & Mrs. Salve, Advocate P. K. Salve you already have had to deal with and you know him. Mrs. Salve is an old B. A., B. T. of Allahabad. Her subject was Maths: and she was a headmistress of a High School before she married. These two are as good as any you can get in C. P. and I have no hesitation in putting their names upto you.

I trust you are keeping well with all this

84 95

extra load on your shoulders. I expect to be here till the 10th then I go to Madras for a few days. At Madras my address will be:
c/o Mr. Appasamy, Thirumalai Pillai Road, Thyagarayanagar. Madras. in case you wish to write.

I am sure Mehrchand Khanna must have been mightily pleased to see that Maulana is standing from the N. W. F. P.

With Kind regards,

Yours Sincerely

J. L. Kumarappa

B. T. Cable

85 No.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

BOMBAY 9 JLY. 46 G.I.

Recd. at ____ H. ____ M.	Sent at ____ H. ____ M.	Office Stamp 1922
From	To	
By		

X PK NAGPUR 9

Sardar vallabhai patel By.

DOBK NAGPUR NAGAR CONGRESS COMMITTEE UNANAMIOUSLY RESOLVED AWARI FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ... LANJEWAR SECRETARY NAGPUR NAGAR CONGRESS COMMITTEE

10,7.46.

I have received your telegram of the 9th inst. and I have to inform you that I have nothing to do with the Constituent Assembly elections.

MBAJ040

...IAN POST...APHS DEPARTMENT. 1930

C.

NOTICE:
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.

Charges to pay.

Rs.	As.
	77

...TEL ... JLY 46 ... BOMBAY

Handed in at (Office of Origin). Bombay | Date. 9 | Hour. 11 | Minute. 25 | Service Instructions. | Words. 43

TO Sardar Patel

Rcvd. here at 11 H. 30 M.

President Congress Parliamentary Board Bg

Seek ~~help~~ representation for Jains in constituent assembly pray take necessary steps to concede the demand propose names of Kasturbhai

The name of the sender, if telegraphed, is written after the text.

SANT TELEGR... SENT. 97 C.

NOTICE.
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram.

Charges to pay.

Re.	As.

Office of Origin TEL BOMBAY 10 JLY 46

Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date.	Hour.	Minute.	Service Instructions.	Words.

TO

Recd. here at H. M.

Kasturchand advocate
Jubbulpore and ~~[illegible]~~
Sumerchand diwakar
Seoni from central prov
=Encls= Roopchand Bajaj
For Jain
Ex Mayor

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, is written after

88

T. 99

9th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 6th inst.

The selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly has been left to the local Congress Assembly arty. We have only issued instructions from above regarding adequate provision to be made for the minorities and special interests. The rest is left entirely to the party.

I am afraid they have already made their choice and it is too late now to suggest any changes from above, even if it were possible to do so. But it is open to you to make your own efforts there, if you think that they are likely to succeed.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B.G.Khaparde,
B.A.,LL.B., M.L.A.,
Advocate,
Amraoti.

B. G. Khaparde
B. A. LL. B., M. L. A.
ADVOCATE.

Amraoti. 99

6th of July 46.

Sardar Wallabh-Bhai Patel.
Congress House
Bombay.

Sardarsaheb.

I learn from papers and other soures that the Congress intends to nominate to the Constituant Assembly some public workers who are not members of the present Legislative Assemblies in their respective Provinces. I therefore hereby submit and apply that my name be considered in this behalf when nominations about C.P.& Berar are decided. I am willing and prepared to serve on the Constituant Assembly if elected.

I have been in public-life for the last 40 years.

I have been continuously without a break a member of the C.P.& Berar Legislative Assembly for the last 21 years. (1924-1945. both inclusive.)

I served as a Minister in C.P.&Berar for 3 years and 4 months. I was in charge of the following departments: viz Education, Local Self Government, Medicine, Co-operative Dept, Agriculture, Forests

B. G. Khaparde
B. A. LL. B., M. L. A.
ADVOCATE.

Amraoti.

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and Revenue.

I was the senior minister and during all the time I occupied office no motion for no confidence was tabled. I and my colleague resigned our offices in 1937 when Congress decided to ake office and set up their ministries.

I did not seak electionto the Legislative Assembly when the latest elections took place.

I was never a Govt servant.

Now that Pakisthan, as such, has been ruled out, "Parity" in any form is not favoured by the Congress, A Central Govt has been accepted both by the Congress and the M. League and weightages have been abolished by the "long term Scheme" differances between various schools of politics have been narrowed down and harmonious working ensured you will, I hope, consider this application favourably.

Yours Sincerely

B G Khaparde

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9th July 46

My dear Dr. Moonje,

I have received your letter of the 6th inst.

The question of selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly is left to the local Congress Assembly arty. We have only issued instructions asking them to make adequate provision for the minorities but the selection of candidates is entirely left to their discretion. Shri Gavai therefore will have to work locally if he wants to get in.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. B.S.Moonje,
The Bhonsala Military Sc ool,
Ramabhoomi,
Nasik.

Telegraphic address:- "Ramadandee", Nasik.

THE BHONSALA MILITARY SCHOOL

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Dr. B. S. Moonje.
General Secretary.

Ramabhoomi, NASIK.
6th July 1946.

Ref. No

Dear Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel,

We had met at Delhi on 17th of the last month in company with Mr. G.D.Birla and had talked about my School and Col. Bhonsale. But I am writing this letter for quite another [redacted] purpose.

You are at present in the midst of selection of persons for the Constituent Assembly. I would reccomend my friend, Mr. Gavai for inclusion in the list of those to be selected for election from the Province of C.P. and Berar. Till the last General Elections, he had been a member of the Provincial Legislature and is regarded a very fit representative of the Depressed Classes. He is opposed to Seperate Electorates, favours Poona Pact and is generally in favour of the activities of the Harijan Sevak Sangh. He is against Pakistan and Parity. He is not expected to be an ostacle in the way of the Congress, though he may sometimes press for his own ideas, particularly in respect of his own Depressed Classes. I will be most thankful. He is offposed to Dr. Ambedkar's Politics.

Yours sincerely,

B. S. Moonje

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6th July 46

My dear Kalappa,

I have your letter of the 2nd inst. I know Dr. Hari Singh Gour. He is indeed a man of great ability and parliamentary experience. He is also an able lawyer. Shri Kedar also is a good lawyer. But it is difficult to accommodate all when there are numerous candidates who are all anxious to be taken. However, I would try to do what I can in the matter. About you, I am not in a position to say without consulting the local people. The Nagpur group may want to send Shri Ruikar. It all depends upon the general agreement between party leaders.

Yours sincerely,

Shri V.R.Kalappa, M.L.A.,
44 King's Way,
Nagpur.

V. R. KALAPPA, M.L.A.

Tele: "RAILWAYMEN - Nagpur"

44, King's Way,
NAGPUR.

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2nd July, 1946.

My dear Chief,

You know I promised to write to you about some outstanding persons who may be useful in the Constituent Assembly. Dr.Hari Singh Gour is indeed an outstanding personality. You know he is a very able Lawyer and is almost an authority on Constitutional Law. I understand that several prominent persons who are not members of the Provincial Legislature have already applied to our Leader who I am sure will discuss their names with you. Mr.T.J.Nedar has not sent his application so far.

I feel I may be of some use, if I were to be a Member. But I wonder if it will be possible for me to find a place but I leave it entirely to you.

Yours sincerely,

V R Kalappa

Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Congress House,
BOMBAY.

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8th July 46

My dear Vir Wamanrao,

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. The question of selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly is left to the Provincial Congress Assembly Party and the Congress High Command has issued no instructions in the matter. The Working Committee has authorised the General Secretary to issue instructions regarding provision for minorities such as Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis, Women and Special Interests, if any. The rest is left to the Provincial Assembly Party. At any rate I am not authorised to do anything in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Vir Wamanrao Joshi,
Amraoti. (Berar)
C.P.

W. G. JOSHI

AMRAOTI (BERAR)

Thos. Dated 2nd July 1946

My dear Sardar Saheb,

I have no mind to make any recommendations to the Congress High Command in connection with the ensuing elections to the Constituent assembly, since I am fully aware that I have no locus standi for doing so. But I would like to make a suggestion or two to you in this respect, which, I trust, you will take into consideration.

I do not know as to whether the High Command have issued any definite instructions to the authorities concerned in this connection and if they have done so, I do not know what they are. But it is quite obvious that panels panels would be ordered to be submitted for final selection. These panels, of course, will have to contain names both from among the members of the various Assemblies and from among the non-members as well.

I am afraid that the panel of recommendees from among the Assembly-members for Berar, will most probably exclude a name, which in the usual

— course —

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course ought not to have been and would not have been certainly omitted. Shri. P. K. Deshmukh, who had been very recently made a special target for opposition at the time of the formation of the ministry of an engineered majority of twenty Berari members, is the person I am here referring to. He has passed his M.A. examination in politics and has studied the Constitutional Law. Among the present members for Berar, he stands first in this respect. He is a genuine congress-worker of a high type and has made sacrifices, he certainly deserves a place in the list of candidates recommended at least. But if he is omitted, you will kindly see whether such panels are not ordered or will not be ordered to be submitted to the High Command, and the persons are to be nominated by them. I wish the name I have suggested above should be taken into account. As for the final decision I have no right to say anything.

The recent worries, I am afraid, must have told upon your health heavily & it is absolutely necessary that you must have complete rest for a few days at least.

I am doing well.

Hoping to be excused for troubles —

Yours sincerely
W. G. Agashe

151 Hindoo Colony Dadar
617146 98

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Dear Sardarjee

as per your instructions I saw Kripalaniji. He said that the two names i.e.) myself and Raj Kumari are there as representing two different interests and that no change can be effected without consulting him. So that I need not bother and that I was free to communicate this to Shukulji but Shukulji still does not seem to accept this view. I met Jawaher Lal jee. He said Raj Kumari name was not in opposition to me but in addition to mine. Let us see what comes out of this

As you are so very busy I did not think it proper to take your time I am going (if I get a ticket) by tomorrows mail. Hoping to see you soon

Yours Anasuyaben Kale

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4th July 46.

Personal.

My dear Gole,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst. The question of selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly was considered at Delhi by the Working Committee and it was decided that subject to adequate provision being made for minorities, women and special interests, it should be left to the provincial assembly parties to make the selection. Apart from these general directions, we have thought fit, particularly owing to the limited number of seats and the shortness of time, to leave the matter to the provinces and asked them to secure our approval. In any case, this question has nothing to do with the Parliamentary Board.

Yours sincerely,

Shri P.B.Gole, B.A.,LL.B.,M.L.A.,
Advocate,
AKOLA.

P. B. GOLE,
B. A., LL. B., M. L. A.
ADVOCATE.

॥ श्री शंकर ॥

AKOLA. 100

Dated 3 - 7 - 1946

Private & Confidential

Dear Sardar Vallabhbhai

Please excuse me for troubling you with this letter. I am writing this with great hesitation as I do not wish to influence your judgment in any way in regard to matters affecting me. I thought however that I must plead my own cause regarding elections to the Constituent Assembly from C.P. & Berar.

From the news papers I could gather that the Congress working Committee desires to send to the Constituent Assembly top most men irrespective of party affiliations. I am not aware as to who are to be elected to the Constituent Assembly from Berar. I presume that my name is not there as I am not so far informed about it. You know that I am at present a member of the Central Assembly as a ~~repres~~ representative from Berar. I would not like to force myself on the attention of the Berar Provincial Congress committee if the said committee is going to select for the Constituent Assembly really competent men.

I am however afraid that other tests than those of

merit or competency are likely to govern the choice of candidates. Hence I thought it necessary to trouble you with this letter. Let me make it clear that I would not like to come in the way of other really qualified and competent persons. I only request that my name may also be considered while fixing candidates for the Constituent Assembly from Berar.

I feel a little ashamed thus to force myself on your attention. But as I do not find any other way in which my name also would be taken into consideration while fixing candidates from Berar, I have taken this rather unusual step of writing to you directly. I do not in the least desire that I should be preferred to other competent people. I only desire that my name may also be considered while selecting candidates.

Hoping to be excused
I remain
Yours truly
P. B. [illegible]

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4th July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst. The Working Committee suggested the name of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur to the Provincial Party and also gave directions of a general nature for making adequate provision for minorities and the rest is left to the provinces. This is not a matter in which the Parliamentary Board has any authority and I regret therefore I won't be able to do anything.

Yours sincerely,

Shri P.K.Salve,
Ramdaspeth,
Nagpur.

Ramdaspeth, Nagpur
3.7.46

My dear Sardar Vallabhbhai,

The question of selection of members to the Constituent Assembly from the Central Provinces will be taken up by you in the near future.

I have discussed the matter with Mr. Shukla, Prime minister. In all likelihood he will place our names before you for consideration.

I should like to place before you the name of Mrs. Salve. She is a graduate of the Bombay university having taken her degree from the Fergusson College, Poona.

She has further attended law lectures of the Nagpur University but did not take the law degree as she did not want to take the law profession. As your directive includes nomination of women the case of Mrs. Salve falls within the four corners of the said directive.

She has no domestic encumbrances
at present as the Children are
all grown up and can look after
themselves. She can devote her
full time and energy to the work
involved in the Constituent Assembly.

You are aware of her
deep attachment and loyalty
to the Congress and she will be
quite an asset to the assembly
from the nationalist point of view.

So far as my case is concerned,
I leave it to you entirely.
In any case, one of us should be
there in the Assembly; the priority
be kindly given to Mrs Sahai.

Yours sincerely
P. K. Sahai.

3rd July 46

My dear Ravi Shankar,

I am enclosing herewith copy of a letter I have received from the President of the Parsee Freedom Group, Nagpur, and my reply thereto.

Yours sincerely,

Encl: 2

3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 2nd July. The Working Committee has issued instructions for making adequate provision for the minorities, but the selection of candidates from these minorities is left to the Congress Assembly Party in the provinces concerned. I have therefore no authority in the matter of selection of candidates and I would advise you to approach the Leader of the Congress Assembly Party of your province in the matter. In C.P. we have asked the local Congress Assembly Party to provide for one seat for the Parsees and I hope that Shri Rustomjee will be selected, as he is the best candidate there.

Yours sincerely,

Shri C.B.Parakh, B.A.,LL.B.,
Advocate, President, Parsee Freedom Group,
Civil Station,
Nagpur.

C. B. PARAKH,
B. A., LL. B.,
ADVOCATE.

President (Parsee Freedom Group).

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TELEGRAMS - "PARAKH ADVOCATE"
Civil Station.

No. Nagpur, C. P. 2nd July 1946.

Dear Sardar Saheb,

In a few days elections will be held of 17 delegates from the Central Provinces and Berar to be sent to the Constituent Assembly.

2. The minorities - like the Parsees - who have not claimed any special representation for themselves, have merged their identity in one singly category of the "Indian" for national purposes, and logically cannot - and we Parsees do not - claim any representation on the ground that a Parsi should or may be elected in the Constituent Assembly. Nevertheless the announcement that representation will as far as possible be provided for all communities and interests is very gratifying as it is in keeping with the high traditions and policy of the Congress.

3. I am writing this letter to invite your attention to the application of a young and active member of our "Freedon Group", Mr. Rustom F. Rustomji, on the sole ground of his qualifications and suitability as an Indian. Mr. R. F. Rustomji is a capable and promising Advocate and has been practising at the Bar for several years. He is professor of Constitutional Law in the University College of Law at Nagpur. He is an ardent Nationalist and has been a Congressman for several years. I feel certain that if he is sent to the Constituent Assembly he will bring credit to the Congress and to this Province and to himself.

4. Your ability for knowledge of man is too well known, and I am sure you will make the right selection, but I thought I would be failing in my duty if I did not bring to your knowledge Mr. Rustomji's candidature and his qualifications. I know that you can secure

secure Mr. Rustomji's selection if you once decide to do so. I hope that Mr. Rustonji will have an opportunity of serving India and the Congress.

I am enclosing for your perusal a copy of a statement which I am issuing to the Press today.

Yours sincerely,

G Narahle

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

[redacted]

[redacted]

Nagpur, dt 1.7.46 109

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Mr. C. B. Parakh (Advocate) President, (Parsee) - Freedom Group, Nagpur, has issued the following statement:-

Re. MINORITIES REPRESENTATION ON THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

1. It is a matter of great satisfaction that the - Congress Working Committee has already issued instructions that nominations to the Constituent Assembly should be so made as to secure a fair representation for women and - minorities, such as Christians, Anglo-Indians and Parsees. The anxiety of the Congress High Command to secure representation to the minorities is in keeping with its high traditions and national character and shows that its - solicitude for the minorities, whom undoubtedly it represents.

2. The minorities by their refusal to claim a separate representation have, for all national purposes, merged themselves in the category of the "Indian". They have - therefore no right to claim that they, or any of them, should be represented in the Constituent Assembly, but it also follows that given a suitable candidate or candidates for his or their candidature, should not be ~~arrived~~ ignored on the ground that a particular minority is over-represented. The only test in such cases should the test of merit and the political creed or the doctrine to which the candidate subscribes.

3. To quote an instance, the creed of the Parsi - Freedom Group says that the Group "wholeheartedly supports the demand that all political power in India should as early as possible be transferred to Indian hands, and Indian must be constituted as one Sovereign State based upon democratic principles". If a representative of our Group goes to the Constituent Assembly, and acts on this creed, which is also the Congress stand, it will vindicate the stand which our Community has always taken, and proclaim to the world that the fear in some quarters of an Independent and united - India is not justified.

Cd

4. We Parsis have made a substantial constitution in the production of India's wealth, and its moral, material and political progress; we feel that we have a part to play in the India of the future; and it is our desire that we should be associated with our countrymen in framing a Free Constitution for our Country which will lead to its occupying its rightful place in the Comity of Nations.

5. If therefore there is any candidate from the Parsi Freedom Group of Nagpur aspiring to a seat on the Constituen Assembly, I appeal to the Major Political Parties of the Province to examine his candidature only on the basis of his ability and fitness, and not on the numerical strength of our Community.

G. B. Marathe

3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter suggesting names for the Constituent Assembly. The selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly will largely depend upon the Congress Assembly Parties in the various provinces. The Working Committee has decided that subject to provision for adequate representation for minorities and special interests, the matter should be left to the provinces and no interference should be made from the top.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B.N.Saojee,
The Indian Central News,
Mahar[illegible], agpur.

The Indian Central News.
Head office: Mahal, Nagpur City.
Managing Director:-
B. N. SAOJEE.

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Revered Sardarji,

I congratulate you for the bold lead you are giving to the country since your ~~rx~~ release. Shri Sarat Chandra Bose, with whom I was put up at Delhi, was talking very highly about you. I wanted to talk to your goodself at Delhi but better I thought not to disturb as you were then very much engaged with important matters. Very often I talk about you with revered Acharya Dada Dharmadhikari whom has saved us from the undesirable candidates in the last Provincial Assembly election.

Now the ~~Constituent~~ Constituent Assembly election has come to the head. Hence I request you to give special attention to the Berar list. I hope you will consult in this matter with either Acharya Dada Dharmadhikari or with Vir Wamanrao Joshi.

By the way I would like to suggest the following names for your information.
1 Shri Brijalal Biyani (Akola) 2 Shrimati Pramila Tai Oak (Akola) 3 K.N.Saojee (Malkapur) 4 Dr Patwardhan (Amraoti) 5 Shri P.K.Deshmukh (Amraoti) 6 Pandit Kanade Shastri (Buldana)

I will not mind if No 3 K.N.saojee's name was dropped though he is my brother. I have only suggested his name for your consideration. Hence I hope your goodself will consult with the persons I have suggested above in this matter and will do needful.

I will be highly obliged if you favour me by way of replying.

Thanking you 'Jai Hind'

Your most obedient
Sewak
BNS
(B.N.Saojee)

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4th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 4th inst. As I am leaving Bombay on the 7th inst. early morning, it is impossible for us to meet in Bombay. I am going to Delhi, where it is not possible for me to say how long my presence will be required.

About the Constituent Assembly and its representation from your province, I am not in a position to express any opinion at present. It depends upon the instructions that may be issued by the Congress Working Committee to all provinces, in case the Congress decides to accept the the Cabinet Mission's proposals. There may be numerous candidates both Congressmen as well as non-Congressmen, and you will appreciate that I cannot say anything about your candidature at present.

Yours sincerely

Shri R.F.Rustamji,
B.A., LL.B.,

R.F.Rustamji,
B.A., LL.B.,
(Advocate)

Civil Station,
Nagpur, C.P.
Dated the 4th June, 1946.

Dear Sardar Saheb,

I trust that what I have to state in this letter will be some justification for my encroaching upon your valuable time.

I am writing this letter to offer myself for election as one of the representatives to be elected by the "general" members of the C.P. & Berar Legislative Assembly to the proposed Constitution-making Body.

I am an Advocate of the High Court of Judicature at Nagpur, and have practised as a Lawyer for the last 14 years. For the last 4 years I have been(and I am even now) Lecturer in Constitutional Law in the University College of Law at Nagpur. I am much interested in Politics and Constitutional Law and have devoted much time to study thereof. I have also made a special study of Public and Private International Law.

I regret that I do not have to my credit the sacrifice and suffering which many patriotic men and women in our country can boast of. However, for several years past, I have tried according to my circumstances, to serve the Cause for which the Congress stands. I have been a four-anna member of the Congress for the last 10 years. From my College days onwards I have spoken and written in favour of the National Cause and I have taken interest in Congress activities, as I think Congressmen in Nagpur will bear out.

Further, for several years I have worked in my humble way to spread national sentiments among Parsees. My views on the Minority Question are well-known in these parts and, I believe, also in Bombay, for I have frequently expressed my views in Gujerati and English journals in Nagpur as well as in Bombay. Sometime back

P.T.O.

I founded the "Freedom Group" at Nagpur on the lines of the one existing in Bombay; as I think you know, our aim is "to educate and mobilise public opinion among Parsees in favour of National Freedom". I am at present the Secretary of this organisation.

In 1944, I wrote and published a small book on "India and the Parsees". This book received a warm reception from the Nationalist Press.(I trust you will recollect that some time back I had occasion to send you a copy of this book).

I believe that you will adjudge the suitability of candidates by two tests:-

(1) the candidate must be sincere in his political convictions and he should have some past record from which his adherence and loyalty to the cause and principles of the Congress may be inferred; and

(2) the candidate must be qualified by virtue of scholarship and study to assist in the process of Constitution-making.

I trust I will not be thought guilty of mere egoism when I state that I feel that I satisfy both these tests.

I have always believed that all Indians of what-ever religion, caste or creed, should join hands and work together for the advancement of our country; that the so called "minorities" of India are "bone of the same bone and flesh of the same flesh" as the rest of India's population, and our destinies are for ever linked with each other. I have held the view that the minorities have not only certain rights, but they also have certain obligations, and the first duty of every Indian is to work for India's emancipation and advancement. I have not only held these views but I have constantly expressed and advocated these, and I have urged that there should be joint-electorates and no reservation for seats. I have also urged

P.T.O.

that no community in India has anything to fear at the hands of any other community.

I venture to suggest that it may be desirable from the point of view of the Congress if in the Constituent Assembly, a member of the smallest minority in India advocates the views I have summarised above. Such a stand would, I think, be an effective answer to the claims of some of our countrymen that under an Indian Government their religion and culture will be gravely endangered.

I feel confident that not only on this, but on all questions which the Constituent Assembly will have to deal with, my views will accord fully with the stand that the Congress Party will take. I may further assure you that I shall subject myself to the discipline of the Congress in all matters.

I need hardly mention that if I am suffessful in my candidature I shall do my utmost to be worthy of your confidence, and I shall endeavour to my utmost to serve the cause of the Congress to the best of amy ability.

I have emboldened myself to put forward my candidature because I feel that if I am selected, I shall be in a position to render some service to our country. I am aware, however, that there will be many other claims, and there will also be many other considerations, and therefore, if you are unable to consider my application favourably, I shall know that you must have strong reasons for whatever decision you make, and such decision must be correct one in the interests of the country.

Yours faithfully,

R J Rustomji

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel,
"Hema Prabha",
No.68, 'Marine Drive',
Bombay.

P.S. I expect to be in Bombay on about the 7th instant in connection with a professional matter. If you are in Bombay at the time, I shall find an opportunity of paying my respects to you, and I shall be glad to give you any further information which you may desire.

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MADRAS

10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 5th inst. The question of selection to the Constituent Assembly is left to the local Congress Assembly Party. The Working Committee has issued instructions for making adequate provision for the minorities. Subject to that provision, the rest is left entirely to the discretion of the party and therefore I have no voice in the matter. The Congress parliamentary board has nothing to do with the affair. You must therefore approach the Leader of the party if you want a place in the Constituent Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Shri V.Narayana Murthi, M.L.A.
(Central),
Virabhadran St.,
Mylapore,
Madras.

N. Narayana Murthi
M. L. A. (CENTRAL)

VIRABHADRAN STREET,
MYLAPORE
MADRAS.

5th July 1946.
(Camp) Vizianagram

To,

Sirdar Vallabhai Patel.
Chairman, All-India Congress Parliamentary Board.
Member. " " Working Committee
The Etc Etc
Bombay.

Most Esteemed Sirdarjee!

Namastee!

This is in Confirmation and Continuation of my long telegram of this morning, which must have naturally and certainly received your Consideration by the time this note reaches you.

All the same I crave your indulgence for this note only by way of a personal explanation as to why I should have thought it necessary to encroach upon your precious time, when as we note from the papers, you have left it entirely to the various Provincial Legislative Parties themselves to select and elect their own teams for the Constituent Assembly.

My case as I have stated in my telegram itself is a peculiar and singular one in as much as I am the only Legislator in the Whole of India whose Constituency is spread and divided between two different Provinces, with two different Provincial Legislature parties. (Orissa and Madras)

That is why in my case I have requested the High Command alone should give the decision and directive to either Madras or Orissa Premier to provide me a place on the Constituent Assembly.

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In thus seeking selection for the Constituent Assembly, I base my claim not only on the consideration that I represent a vast area spread over in two Provinces and comprising of a tract covered by not less than 32 Provincial legislators, in two different Provinces. but also on other special grounds.

My Constituency consists of very vast Agency tracts of Ganjam as well as Vizag districts as well as the adjoining Polavaram and Gudem Agencies. and the problems of the future relations between these "excluded" and "partially excluded" areas and the future Central Indian Union Govt, is a subject which is bound to look large in the Counsels of the Constituent Assembly now in the making.

The future of the string of not-less than six important sea-ports of the East Coast of India (Gopalpur, Barwa, Calingapatam, Bimlipatam, Vizagapatam. etc etc etc) which contribute tens lakhs and lakhs of emigrants annually to Burma, Malaya Java and other Countries of the far East and claim the largest bulk of the revenues from Burma and also have large trade interests, is also a subject forming an important part of the future Commonwealth Relations which are sure to arise with the question of the future Constitution of India.

It is Considerations of special and very important interests like this that prompts me and urges me to seek a place on the Constituent Assembly and I leave it entirely to your judicious decision to select me and give the necessary directive either to Orissa or to Madras, as you may think expedient.

Awaiting your generous decision
and assuring you of my steadfast devotion and loyalty,

Ever yours obediently,

P. Parayana murthi

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10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your l[illegible] of the 4th inst. I have no authority to [illegible]titute a Board of the two gentlemen su[illegible]d by you for the purpose of selection [illegible]andidates to the Constituent Assembly. [illegible] for the Party to decide and we cannot [illegible]rive the Party of its franchise. I tru[illegible]hey will exercise their franchise in a [illegible]per manner.

[illegible]urs sincerely,

Shri A.Govindacharyulu, M.L.[illegible]
Sree Sita Rama Nilayam,
ELLORE.

A. Govindacharyulu,
M.L.C. MADRAS
SENATOR. ANDHRA UNIVERSITY
Author
MAHATMA GANDHI
INDIAN ECONOMICS
INDIAN POLITY
UTTARA RAMA CHARITAMU ETC.
(Poetry)

SREE
SITA RAMA NILAYAM,
ELLORE.

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Date 4th. July 1946

Private and Personal

To

Sree Sardar Vallabhai Patel, BOMBAY

Dear Sardarji,

With a view to avoiding party patronage and the politics of cliques, irrespective of merit, now prevailing in the Madras Congress Legislature party, even in regard to the selection of congress candidates for the Constituent Assembly, may I make the humble suggestion that Messers C. Rajagopalachari and Dr. B. Pattabhiseetharamayya may be constituted as the selection board for the purpose for the Province of Madras or at least that they may be appointed as the appellate tribunal?

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

A. Govindacharyulu

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1464

10th July 46

Dear sister,

I have received your letter of 1st inst.

The question of selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly has been left to the Congress Assembly Parties in the provinces. The Working Committee has issued a general directive to make adequate provision for minorities, such as Anglo-Indians, Indian Christians, Parsees and Women, but the selection of names is in their hands. You must therefore approach the Leader of the Party in your province.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Jebamoney Vasalingamoney,
Green Cottage Bldgs.,
Tuticorin.

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Mrs. Jebamoney Masillamoney.
MEMBER,
MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

"Green Cottage Buildings",
Tuticorin, 1st July 1946.

To The Chairman
The Indian National Congress
Central Election Board
Congress House Note-

Sir,

I understand that certain number of seats are allotted for women in the Constituent Assembly.

May I request you to be good enough to apportion seats for the Indian Xian women also in the Constituent Assembly.

I represent the Indian Xian women in the Madras Legislative Assembly & I place my services at your disposal.

Hoping that the matter, being one of the minority communities will receive due attention & thanking you in anticipation

Yours faithfully.
Jebam Masillamoney

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10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. I am returning the two enclosures to you, as they may perhaps be of use to you in future.

As the chapter is now closed, I have nothing more to say in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

Shri A. asillamoney Pillai,
Green Cottage Bldgs.,
Tuticorin.

A. Masillamoney Pillai,
MERCHANT & CONTRACTOR.
Green Cottage Buildings.

Tuticorin, 2nd July 1946.

To
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Chairman, The Indian National Congress
Central Election Board
Congress House, Girgaum, Bombay 4.

1.67

Respected & Dear Sir;

I am in the receipt of your kind letter d/d 21-2-46. On receipt of which, I addressed a letter to you on the 25th Feby, to allay my anxiety in connection with the original letter of Sri. G. Sitarama Sastry Garu of Guntur, which I had sent you but no acknowledgement had been received till then. A reply to this enquiry of mine was sent by the Secretary under date 1st March 46 acknowledging the receipt of that original letter of the one mentioned above. By the time this was received I went away from Bombay & Considering the more important matters of the country in which you were wholly occupied, I put off my correspondence on that for the moment & now I start again.

In the first place, I am in duty bound to thank you for the spirit and sentiment expressed in your letter d/d 21st Feby & above all for your preparedness for making an independent enquiry and afford relief to the aggrieved & thus render justice. But I am sorry to find that you have expressed a want of confidence over the result in the face of the evidence furnished by the President of the Tamil nad Congress Committee. I would only request you not to grow so diffident at the initial stage but keep an open mind & conduct the enquiry.

The evidence furnished by the President of the T.N.C.C. & his colleagues, I will not say Clique, is I am sorry to observe, a fabrication, instinctively criminal, which they have very cleverly managed to manipulate and obtain the signatures of a few men at a particular stage, when the fate of their selection to the Assembly was pending in their hands.

The Tamil Nad Congress Committee President in his amidst attempts to fabricate evidence to extricate himself from the first has only allowed himself to be buried deeper. The statements made & signed by these gentlemen are all false & nefarious thoroughly opposed to facts & will not stand the test of strict scrutiny I find among the signatories one who was never in the Tanjore Jail along with me & certain others whose knowledge of English is nil who would never have subscribed their signature had they known what has been written. I need not go further. I will stop by saying "I challenge the President of the Tamil Nad Congress committee & his colleagues to prove their statement".

I have pleasure in submitting you herewith 2 documents in original one from the Inspector General of Prisons and another from Sir V. S. Sastri a well known Moderate B.A. B.L. & M.L.A and Secretary of the Congress party of the Madras Legislature. You have already in your possession the original letter of Sir G. Seetha Rama Sastry Garu of Guntur. These documents will certainly help you in forming the right Judgement over the Case before you, the enquiry of which has to be conducted at all costs in the interest of the vindication of truth and expose the vagaries of men placed in high position in the Congress & thus safeguard the prestige & honour of the Great Indian National Congress.

Begging to be excused for the trouble.

I am
Respected & Dear Sir
Your most obedient Servant
B. Rama Chandra Raju

Enclosures 2

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10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 6th inst. The question of selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly is left to the Congress Assembly Party in the province. The Working Committee has issued instructions for making adequate provision for the minorities. Subject to that provision, the rest is left entirely to the discretion of the Party. You must therefore approach the Leader of the Party, if you want to get elected to the Constituent Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Shri S. Subramanian, B.A.,
Thittai Village & Post,
Tanjore Taluk.

From
S. Subramaniam, B.A.,
Thittai village and Post,
Tanjore Taluk.

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To
Sri. Sardar Vallabai Patel,
President,
Congress Parliamentary Board,
Bombay.

Respected Sir,

I belong to the Harijan community. I am a native of Tanjore District. I took my B.A. degree in the Madras University in the year 1940. I joined the Law College Madras in 1941 and after sitting there in the F.L. Class for a few months I had to discontinue my studies owing to financial difficulties. I applied for the selection of Sub Inspector's post was selected and appointed as Sub Inspector in the Madras Police Service. I served as Sub Inspector of Police and passed the several Departmental and Legal tests (Criminal laws, Special and Local Laws) and was confirmed in due course. However I found that I was not able to do such service socially as I had the desire to in regard to my community in the Police Service. So I voluntarily resigned from the service in May last and have since been doing social service to the people of my community. The work that I am doing can be verified from Sri. T.V. Sadagopachari M.A., B.L., M.L.A (C) in Tanjore and Sri. V.V.R. Subba Rama M.L.A. in Madura. I have taken the liberty of attaching herewith a testimonial from Sri. TV. Sadagopachariar.

I wish to stand as a candidate for election to the Constituent Assembly by the Madras Legislative Assembly. I am willing to abide by the decision of the party, if the party selects me.

I request that I may be selected as a candidate by the Congress party for election to the constituent Assembly by the Madras Legislative Assembly.

I am,
Yours sincerely,
S. Subramaniam.
6-7-46

T. V. Satakopa Chari
Advocate - MLA (Central)

Tanjore,
6th July 1946

I know Mr. S. Subrahmanian of Thittai village quite well for the past one decade. He is a bright young man, straight & simple in all his dealings. He is imbued with a spirit of Service & sacrifice and will be an acquisition to any organisation requiring persons of zeal & spirit.

I am informed he is anxious to serve on the Constituent Assembly. He is qualified for it especially for speaking on behalf of his Harijan Community. I shall feel personally glad if he is selected.

T.V. Chari.

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7th July 46

My dear Giri,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst. I know Shri N.M.Joshi since many years. He has done very good service to the cause of ~~xxx~~ labour and the country in his own way. But I do not think the Congress can take the risk of taking him in the Constituent Assembly. You know he is an open advocate of Pakistan, which is a matter of vital principle with the Congress. He has always advocated acceptance of all the claims of the Muslim League without any question. He is able to accommodate himself with the Communists or perhaps he is a Communist, and therefore he had to leave the Servants of India Society. Amongst the Communists also there are many able men but a golden knife cannot be used for committing suicide.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Mr. V.V.Giri,
Minister,
4 Giri Road,
T. Nagar,
Madras.

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V.V. Giri, Bar-at-Law,

4, Giri Road,
T. Nagar, Madras,
3rd July, 1946.

My dear Chief,

Mr. N.M. Joshi has written to me expressing his desire to stand for the Constituent Assembly. I am sure you have known him for a sufficiently long time. His capacity and sincerity of purpose are beyond question, and his honesty in the cause of workers is appreciated throughout the country. I shall feel very happy if something can be done in this matter.

With kindest regards,

Yours very sincerely,

V.V. Giri

Sjt.Vallabhbhai Patel,
C/o 'Congress House',
Girgaum, (Bombay).

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7th July 46.

Dear Friend,

I have received your letter of the 2nd inst. The question of selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly has been left to the local provincial assembly party and the Parliamentary Board has no control over it. The Working Committee has given certain directions through the General Secretary for making adequate provision for minorities and subject to that provision the whole matter is left to the Assembly Party. You may therefore approach them, if you want to enter the Constituent Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Shri A.Nesamillamoney Pillai,
Green Cottage Buildings,
TUTICORIN.
S.India.

A. Masillamoney Pillai,
MERCHANT & CONTRACTOR.

Madras

Green Cottage Buildings 133
Tuticorin, 2nd July 1946

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To Sjt Vallabhbhai Patel
Chairman
The Indian National Congress
Central Election Board
Congress House
Grigaum Bombay

Respected & Dear Sir,

I understand that 45 non-muslim seats are allotted for the Madras Province in the Constituent Assembly. Out of these 45 a certain number of seats must be allotted for the Indian Christians. I request that these seats are divided equally among the Catholics & Protestants.

I am a long standing Catholic Congressman & an aggrieved one in not having selected for the central Assembly & the matter for enquiry is still pending with you. Now another chance has arisen in which a minority community member may be selected by the General electorate. I request you to include me as one among the Indian Christian nominees as a Catholic.

This act of yours will afford me a great Consolation & commensurate the past wrongs. I have already submitted my nomination papers to the authorities Concerned. Please do help me

and oblige 134 150

Hoping that you will do the needful &
thanking you very much in anticipation.

I am
Yours faithfully
Rai Manager

6th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your appeal dated 1st July at 1 p.m. today. We had disposed of the matter already before your appeal was received and a telegram regarding the selection of Shri Nathmuni Reddy was already despatched. Your appeal was therefore out of time.

Yours sincerely,

Shri M.V.Papanna Gupta,
Madanapalli P.O.,
Madanapalli.

[illegible]

[illegible] Shri T.M. [illegible] Nadil [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

3rd July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 30th June confirming your telegram regarding Constituent Assembly elections. We are not going to issue any instructions from above and you must approach the local Congress Assembly Party, if you want to secure any seat for the backward classes, whom you profess to represent.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon.Secretary,
Backward Classes League,
6 Memorial all St.,
P.T.Madras.

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THE BACKWARD CLASSES LEAGUE, (REGD.)

President
RAO BAHADUR H. B. ARIGOWDER, B.A.,
Honry-Secretary
V. M. GHATIKACHALAM.
D. COM., F. INT. A.C., F.A.I.A., (LOND.)

6, MEMORIAL HALL STREET,

P. T., Madras, June 30 1946.

Sjt. Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
Congress House,
Bombay.

Sir,

I confirm my telegram of yesterdate reading:

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY MADRAS ELECTIONS - PRAY DIRECTIONS CONGRESS LEGISLATURES ELECT BACKWARD CLASSES REPRESENTATIONS - IMPORTANT ELEMENT MADRAS PROVINCE - ASSURE SUPPORT CONGRESS - REPLY SOLICITIED: GHATIKACHALAM SECRETARY BACKWARD CLASSES LEAGUE PARK TOWN MADRAS "

I most earnestly request you to give your sympathetic consideration to the question of Backward Classes and elect representatives of the Backward Classes League also to the Constituent Assembly, so that we can have our say in the destiny of India which is going to be shaped at the Constituent Assembly.

The population of the Backward Classes from Madras is approximately 24 millions, nearly half the population. The Backward Classes League has been working for the last ten years in the directions of ameliorating the conditions of Backward Communities. We are all national minded and assure you of our support for the Congress in its fight for national freedom. Please instruct the Congress Legislature Party in Madras to provide us representation to one or two members chosen from the Backward Classes League.

We look forward to receiving your favourable reply.

Yours sincerely,

(V.M. GHATIKACHALAM)

Hon. Secretary

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THE BACKWARD CLASSES LEAGUE, (REGD.)

President
BAHADUR H. B. ARIGOWDER, B.A.,

Honry-Secretary
V. M. GHATIKACHALAM.
D. COM., F. INT. A C., F.A.I.A., (LOND.)

6, MEMORIAL HALL STREET,
P. T. Madras, 8th July, 1946.

Sri Sardar Vallabhai Patel,
C/o. Congress House,
BOMBAY.

Dear Sir,

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY & BACKWARD CLASSES.

I confirm my telegram of date reading as follows:-

"BACKWARD CLASSES LEAGUE MADRAS REPRESENTING OVER 140 BACKWARD COMMUNITIES RECOGNISED BY GOVERNMENT POPULATION 24 MILLIONS MOST EARNESTLY PRAY REPRESENTATION IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WE CONSTITUTE IMPORTANT NATIONAL ELEMENT AND YOUR GESTURE WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AND EVER REMEMBERED WITH GRATITUDE ASSURE SUPPORT CONGRESS OUR RECOMMENDATIONS HANDED OVER TO KAMARAJ".

The Backward Classes of South India Most earnestly request you to provide representation to the members chosen by the Backward Classes League to represent their interests in the Constituent Assembly. We assure you of our support to the Congress in its struggle for national freedom. The Congress has been so gracious as to decide to provide representation for various interests in the country and as the Backward Classes constitute an important national element in the Madras Province and are recognised by the Govt. as such I most earnestly appeal to you to select leaders chosen by the Backward Classes League for election to the Constituent Assembly. The following are the names chosen by the League and already communicated to the President of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee, Madras in reply to his letter dated 30.6.1946.

1. Mr.M.A.Manickavelu Nayaker, B.A.B.L. Vellore.
2. " S. Venugopal Chettiar, B.A.B.L., Madras.
3. " V.M. Ghatikachalam, D.Com.,F.INT.A.C.,F.A.I.A.,(LOND.)
   Hony.Secretary, The Backward Classes League(Regd.)
   Madras.

Your gesture in this respect will be an epoch-making event in the history of the Backward Classes and will ever be remembered by them with gratitude.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,
V. M. Ghatikachalam

HONY. SECRETARY.
THE BACKWARD CLASSES LEAGUE (REGD.) MADRAS.

3rd July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 27th inst. The selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly will largely depend upon the Congress Assembly Party. The Working Committee has decided that subject to adequate provision for minorities and special interests, the matter should be left to the provinces and no interference should be made from top.

Yours sincerely,

Shri G.Harisarvottama Rau,
22 Cathedral Rd.,
Madras 6.

No. 22 Cathedral Road 142
Madras 6. 27/4/46

Dear Sirdar Vallabhai Patel,

Fired by the desire to place at the disposal of the Country my forty years experience of public life I have decided to stand for the Constituent Assembly provided the Competent Congress authority accepts my name. I understand that as the President of the All India Parliamentary Board you will probably be the authority nominating Sitters than Assembly members acting on behalf of the High Command. I shall be thankful if your selection should include me. I need hardly say that I am about to bear experienced from the most backward part of the Andhradesa, namely the Rayalaseema. I do not desire to burden you with narrating my qualifications. I know you know me sufficiently to come to your own conclusions.

Thanking you

Yours Sincerely
C. Varisaravthama Rau.

P. Subbarayan.
White's Garden
Royapettah
Madras.
7. VII '46

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My dear Sardarji,

I must thank you for your letter from Delhi. As the negotiations stand here I did think it would be better if you suggested this name from above, but as you say that it was not found possible, I am content to see whether any thing could be done here. Rajaji is back and I talked with him to get an agreed list, but I do not know how far his plans will succeed. As events are coming I think the Secretaryship of the Constituent Assembly will be a real help you can give me. I will not bother you, but I do feel I owe it to the country to assist Assembly and I can do it with a free mind

to help me except you. As I have
written I decided long ago that I
should look up to you, as as I leave
the matter in your hands. I
write it in Bombay in the morning
of the 5th, as will bring you proof
up, to fix an appointment with
you. and see you at the time
convenient to you. to the working
Committee meeting that day in all
your absence, but I hope you may
be able to spare some time for
me. Please remember us with
Mrs Dadi Bai, as me & Dattatrai

With pranam

Yours affly

D Dattatrayan

B. I. Cable

145

No.

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

Recd at ____ H. ____ M.	Sent at ____ H. ____ M.	Office Stamp.
From	To	
By VIDE B	By	

81

O T TELLICHERRY 1

THE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF SRI GNANODAYA YOGAM OF NORTH MALABAR ON 1ST JULY 1946X RESOLVES TO REQUEST TO CONSIDER THE NEED AND THE CLAIM OF THIYAS WHO FORM THE MAJOR COMMUNITY IN MALABAR AND NUMBER ABOUT TWENTY LAKHS TO REPRESENT THEM IN THE PROPORTION TO THE STRENGTH OF THEIR POPULATION IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY THAT IS TO BE CONSTITUTED SHORTLY PRESIDENT SRI GNANODAYAM YOGAM TELLICHERRY.

S.A.M.

146

80

INDIA AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

No.

13 50

85 Rs By

BOMBAY GARSON TELEGRAPH 2 JULY

Cocanada 2 Service Instructions Words

Sardar Patel By Gs
madras Catholics urge Inclusion
of tuticorin Jahamoney masillamon-
-ey only Christian congress legislation
of India Pray Instruct Pakasam
Guarapragasam
Pillai

N.B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed, should be written under, or separated from, the body

Camp: New Delhi.

28th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your telegram of yesterday. Candidates for the Constituent Assembly will not be selected by us but they are to be selected by the Congress Assembly Party members in the province. Therefore you must approach the leader of the party.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Narasappa,
President,
Arya Vysya Youngmen's Assn.,
Bellary.

1087

27 JUN 48

1770

148

O KE BELLARY 27 (THREEADDS) 43

SARDAR VALLABHAL PATEL NEW DELHI

...PRAY SELECT KEKUR SUBRAMANYAM NONLEGISLATOR BELLARY CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY VAST SACRIFICES EXPERT CONSTITUTIONAL LAW MOST POPULAR CONGRESS LEADER.

....NARASAPPA PRESIDENT ARYA VYSYA YOUNG M
ASSTN...LN 176

Camp: NewDelhi.

27th June 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your telegram of the 26th inst. We have left the choice of selection to the Constituent Assembly to the Congress Assembly Party, as we have hardly any time to go through the procedure of selection for all provinces. We have sent a few general instructions to be observed, such as provision for small minorities such as Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis, and women. We have also suggested certain names of experts. The rest we have left to the Party.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Thirmala Row, [redacted]
Gandhinagar,
Cocoanada.

C.3.

150

1224

26 JUN 46

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INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

Received here at ~~7~~ H. ____ M. No.

X NL MADRAS J 26 27 SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL BIRLA HOUSE NEW DELHI

= REQUEST GIVE OPPORTUNITY SERVI + SERVICE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY

PROVED CAPABLE USEFUL CENTRAL ASSEMBLY COUNCIL HOPE CAN JUSTIFY IF

SELECTED = THIRUALAROW =

The sequence of entries at the beginning of this telegram is—class of telegram, time handed in, serial number (in the case of foreign telegrams only), office of origin, date, service instructions (if any), and number of words.

This form must accompany any enquiry respecting this telegram.

C. & M. G. Ltd., Lahore—E570—20.4.46—15,000 Bks.

HON. M. THIRUMALA ROW
MEMBER COUNCIL OF STATE.

25 Pithapuramnagar
Teynampet
MADRAS.

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26-6-46

Respected Sardarji.

I have write to you requesting you to give me an opportunity for service as a member of the Constituent Assembly.

I was in the Central legislative assembly from 1937-41 and took active interest in the proceedings. Now in the Council of State I have been doing my utmost to uphold the prestige and name of the Congress. On every important topic of public interest I put forth fearlessly and fearlessly the Congress view point on the floor of that chamber that is enveloped in reaction.

I have made use of the opportunity which You have given me by keeping me in these assemblies. I am confident of being a diligent understudy to front-rank leaders in the Constituent assembly.

Both the houses of the Central legislature are deprived of the franchise to vote for the C. assembly. For workers like me to pass through the unpleasant task of Canvassing

152 from the provincial assembly is difficult-
in view of the many considerations that influence
dorens minds.

You have been all along lending
your helping hand in encouraging me
to do my bit. The late Bhudabaiji as
leader of the congress party has assessed
me rightly and gave me due opportunity.

I hope to be excused for writing at length
on this matter. I trust you are keeping well,

Yours sincerely
Dr. Thirumalai

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Camp: New Delhi.

27th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 19th inst. We have left the selection of candidates to the Constituent Assembly to the Congress Assembly Party, except giving a few general instructions regarding making proper provision for the representation of minorities such as Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis and special interests such as labour, etc. If you therefore propose to stand for the Constituent Assembly, you must make efforts from there. We can do nothing from the top.

Yours sincerely,

Shri G.V.Ramana Murthi,

Dist Ry. Sh.

Vizag Dt.

Sri

Sardar Vallabhai Patelji. 154

Respected Sardarji 196

Pronams.

I have already tendered and submitted my views respectfully to you and Mahatmaji regarding the coming Selections to the Constituent Assembly. It is you de facto and defacto you are our National representative today. Whatever might be the definitions of democracy, professed by certain interested sections and we are ever safe under the mantra of your guidance. Besides Sir it is a pleasure as such for a junior & Newer like myself to submit myself boldly and Bend to your Commands and be even drawn over by the Chariot wheels and who can dare dispute your wise decisions. In this connection it also behoves us to submit our point of view regarding these coming selections which I feel have to be done by you, rather than left to the Pcc's or the Legislature Parties, as the Madras Party leaves a feeling. It would not be out of place also, Leader, to quote the Commentary the Patrika in his Leader of 7.6.46 'The Election of Members for the Constituent Assembly in each Province we think, is not confined to the Members of the Legislative Assembly.... This question apart, it is eminently desirable that Congress Leaders and Members of the Assembly should meet together at an early date & decide what type of representatives

155 they would nominate for election to the Constituent Assembly three sons of a highly technical nature. No less than three of a general political bearing will have to be considered and where the Congress both have to give a lead not only to by the weight of its numbers and its wealth by political experience gathered by years of toil and sweat but also by its skilful handling of extremely difficult and delicate matters which will come up from day to day'.

Herein also it appears to be kept over to the Pecs Legislative Parties but I submit even that may be delicate and dangerous and I would go to the farthest extent of submitting and imploring you to do the job yourself.

Having made an Observation entreaty. I must also make my own position clear. I submit, Sir, that my case should be taken for hardship Consideration, as I am alive to the

the responsibilities enjoined upon me and I feel I would be failing in my duty if I do not express you my readiness to accept any such important station but that I am not at all covetous or over ambitious. Besides I submit that an unexpected and unthought of insult was done to me in the selection for the Hon. Legislature and the people of the Constituency during the last selections to the Madras Legislature. On the other hand and I do not judge this. I only point out to you the disparity on the one hand and also the danger that may invade in the composition of the Coming Parliament Assembly.

Having therefore so far clarified my views on the selection of the Candidate for the Constituent Assembly and my own case. I would like to

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to Conclude once again imploring You to give Consideration to my personal Appeal, and I further submit in this Connection that I am peculiarly unfortunate in having my Case in this Session of the Working Committee.

I remain,
Yours obediently,
N. Ranga Murti
19-6-46

Ex-Addl. and Congress Interner

Just Rs
Vizag Dt.

180 158

24th June46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 17th inst. The election to the Constituent Assembly rests with the local Provincial Assembly members and it is not possible for me to interfere in the matter. The utmost that we can do is to give advice but in view of the relations thatexist between us and the Madras Congress Assembly Party, we have not yet decided whether we should give them any advice or not. You must therefore make your efforts independently of us and approach the Congress Assembly Party for that purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Shri S.V.Ramaswami, M.A.,Bar-at-Law,
President,
The Salem Academy of Economics & Political Science,
Salem.

The Salem Academy of Economics and Political Science

SRI S. V. RAMASWAMI, M. A., BAR-AT-LAW, (PRESIDENT)
.. N. SRINIVASAN, M. A., (VICE-PRESIDENT)
.. M. N. RANGACHARY, M. A., B. L., (SECRETARY)
.. K. N. SRINIVASAN, B. A., B. L. } (COMMITTEE
.. N. S. RAMASWAMI, B. A., B. L. } MEMBERS)

Salem 159

Date 17-6-46 194

Respected Sirdarji,

It looks as if we are on the eve of breaking the stalemate and get a move on. The Interim Government will be set up as also the Constitution making body. Today's radio news says that instructions have been issued to the Provincial Governors to convene the Legislative Assemblies for the purpose of electing the delegates to the Constituent Assembly

It is not clear whether persons who are not members of the Legislative Assemblies can be elected. The Congress stand has always been that and there does not seem to be any obstacle to such a course. Indeed, there are many outside the Legislatures whose presence in the Constituent Assembly will be indispensable.

I am too humble to claim that I am one of these indispensables. But I beg leave to urge that I have studied the subject of Constituent Assemblies as a student of Political Science. As a matter of fact, I have published a small brochure THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF INDIA, on I-I-46. Sjt. V. V. Giri, Minister for Industries, Madras, was kind enough to write a Foreward.

I have been a Congressman since my student days, from 1920. But I have not gone anywhere near the jails. If that be a disqualification I am out of court. If that is not so, may I request you to kindly take me into the Constituent Assembly?

I assure you I will loyally and faithfully stand by the Congress. I am sending by separate post a copy of my booklet.

Yours in the service of our Motherland

S. V. Ramaswamy

President.

The Salem Academy of Economics and Political Science

SRI S. V. RAMASWAMI, M. A., BAR-AT-LAW, (PRESIDENT)
.. N. SRINIVASAN, M. A., (VICE-PRESIDENT)
.. M. N. RANGACHARY, M. A., B. L., (SECRETARY)
.. K. N. SRINIVASAN, B. A., B. L. } (COMMITTEE
.. N. S. RAMASWAMI, B. A., B. L. } MEMBERS)

Salem 160

Date 17-6-46 194

182

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It looks as if we are on the eve of breaking the stalemate and get a move on. The Interim Government will be set up as also the Constitution making body. Today's radio news says that instructions have been issued to the Provincial Governors to convene the Legislative Assemblies for the purpose of electing the delegates to the Constituent Assembly

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I assure you I will loyally and faithfully stand by the Congress. I am sending by separate post a copy of my booklet.

Yours in the service of our motherland

Dr. Ramaswamy 17/6.

President.

Camp: Birla House,
Albuquerque Rd.,
New Delhi.
20th June 1946.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 10th inst. For candidature to the Constituent Assembly, you must approach the Congress Assembly Party in Madras. We have not yet decided to accept or reject the proposals and hence we have issued no instructions in this behalf. We cannot go into the question of elections till we finally decide to accept the Cabinet Mission's proposals.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. P.Varadarajulu Naidu,
ASOKAPURI,
Villupuram.
S.India.

DR: P. VARADARAJULU NAIDU

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ASOKAPURI
VILLUPURAM (S. INDIA)

10th June 1946.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Constituent Assembly.
Election---Madras.

I propose to stand as a Congress Candidate for the ensuing election to the Constituent Assembly for the Madras Presidency -- General and request you and the members of the Parliamentary Board -- Provincial and Central to nominate me for the said election.

Yours truly,

(Former President - Tamil Nadu Congress & the former Member of the Congress Working Committee)

To:

Sardar Vallabbhai Patel - Central Parliamentary Board
&
Presidents of Congress Committees - Tamil Nadu, Andhra & Kerala.

163
185

Camp: Birla House,
New Delhi. 12.6.46

My dear Thirumala Row,

I have received your letter of 8th inst. We have not yet reached the stage of election to the Constituent Assembly, because we have not yet passed any final resolution on the Cabinet Mission's proposals. The question of election to the Constituent Assembly can only be considered after the decision of the Congress accepting the proposals is made but your suggestion would be borne in mind if such occasion arises.

Yours sincerely,

Shri M.Thirumala Row,
Gandhinagar,
Cocoanada.

164
Gandhinagar
Cocanada
8.6.46

186

Respected Vallabhbhaiji,

I herewith enclose a copy of my letter to be considered by the Congress working Committee with regard to election of delegates to the Constituent assembly.

I need not mention the importance of the Constitution making body and the need for the Congress high command to have a closer grip of the Congress part of that body. Many people, I understand desire to stand and I am afraid there will be scramble for the places.

The membership of this body is more important than that of the Legislative assemblies and therefore calls for your dealing with it directly.

Such of us who are in the Central assembly and Council of State are deprived of franchise to elect.

I request you to do what you can as chairman of the central parliamentary board to see that properly qualified and deserving people from the Congress ranks are given a chance to serve the country and the Congress in this critical hour.

I trust you are keeping well.

Yours Sincerely
M. Thimmaiah

P.S. I have also written to Dr. Pattabhi.

Gandhinagar
Cocanada
8.6.46

To
The Secretary,
All India Congress Committe,

Dear Sir,

In the event of the Congress entering the constituent assembly I suggest for the consideration of the Congress Working Committee the desirability of setting up suitable congress nominees from the various provincial assemblies by the working committee itself.

A certain standard of equipment and team work are required for the task. I think the matter can be treated as important as setting up of candidates for the legislative assemblies.

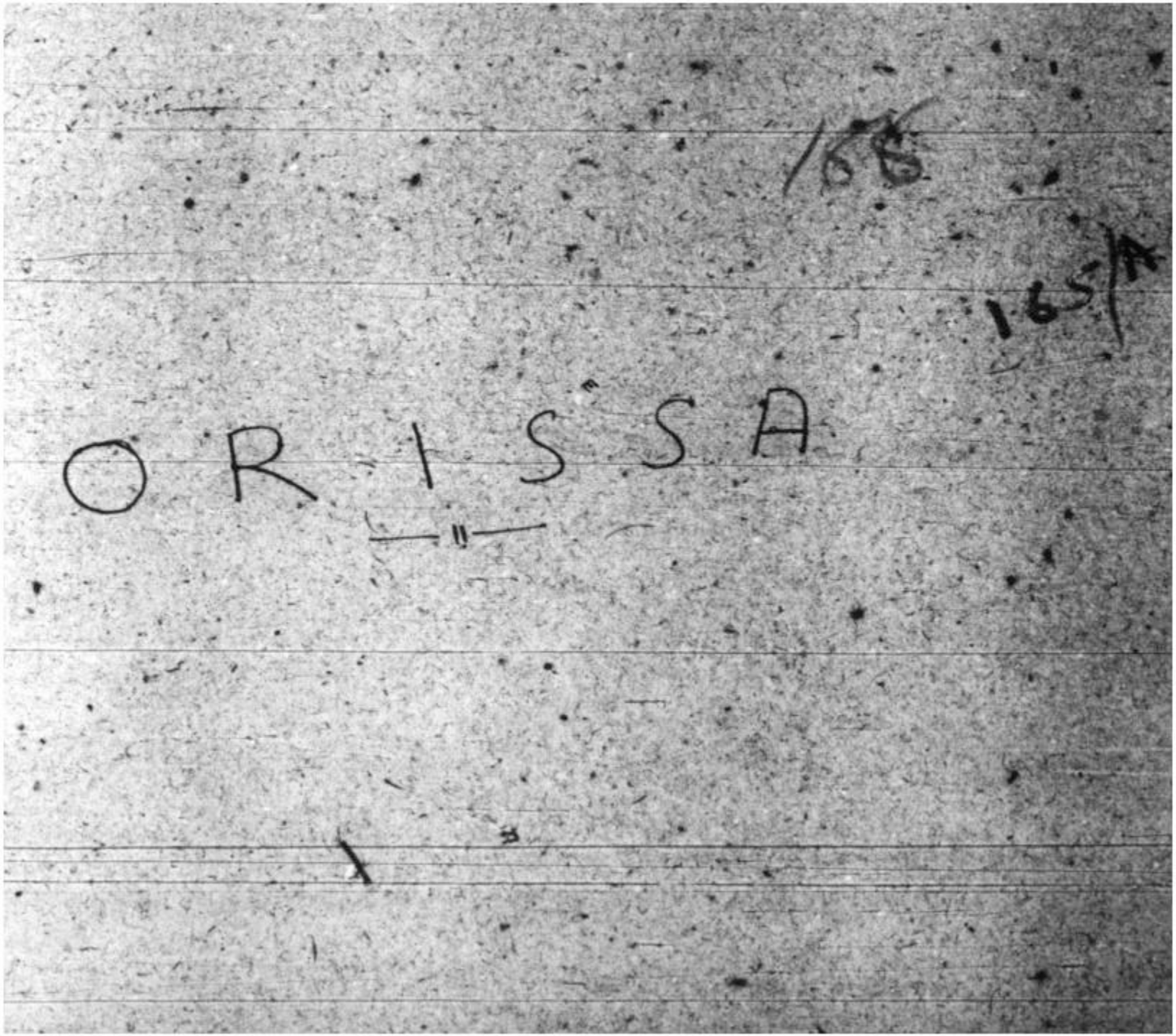
In this connection I mention that the central assembly and council of state are not recognised as an electorate. Congress members of these bodies who deserve to be in the constituent assembly may be enabled to contest and come into the constituent assembly through selection by the congress high command.

I think a large number of congressmen wish to enter the constituent assembly and it is but just that the working committe will take up the matter instead of allowing a canvassed election.

I request you to place this letter before the working committe for consideration.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Thirumala Rao

True Copy


ORISSA

Ex. & Cable. 287

166

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

Recd. at ____ H. ____ M.	Sent at ____ H. ____ M.	Office Stamp. BOMBAY 7 JLY 38
From ____	To ____	
By ____	By ____	

X RF CHAKRADHARPUR 6 54

SARDAR PATEL CONGRESS BOMBAY

SINGHBHUM ORIYAS CONSTITUE PECULIAR MINORITY ITH THEIR SEPARATE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN BIHAR STOP JUSTICE ND FAIR PLAY DEMAND THEIR REPRESENTATION IN CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY ATLEAST ONE OF THIS MINORITY MAY BE SELECTED FOR SOME, SINGHBHUM DICICI RECOMENDS MRITYUNJOY DAS LAWYER

BIJOYKUMAR [illegible]NI V SECRETARY

MBA 1/-

[illegible]

167

190

Camp: N.Delhi.

28th June 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 23rd inst. We know Shri Krishna Menem of the India League and he has met us also. It is unnecessary for you to make any recommendation for him. We know more of him than you can. There is no question of sending any Ambassadors outside on behalf of Free India, till India is free. You need not recommend any people for important posts, as you are new to India and we know of our Congress colleagues more than you can ever do.

We have no instructions to be given to the Provincial Congress Assembly parties in the matter of selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly, except for the purpose of making adequate provision for small minorities such as Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis and the like. The rest remains with the electorate, viz. the Assembly members and we do not propose to interfere with them. You must try your luck there.

Yours sincerely,

Kumar Lall Ranjit Singh, M.L.A.,
Padampur Palace,
P.O.Raj Borasambar.
Dist. Sambalpur.

Dt. 23.6.46.

Kumar Lall Ranjit Singh M.A.
Padampur Palace
P.O. Raj-Borasamber
Dist. Sambalpur.
Orissa.

Most Rev Sardarjee.

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Knowing you to be very busy these a days I will make my letter as concise as possible.

I saw in to-day's paper that Mr. or Dr. V.K. Krishna Menon, Secretary of the India League has left for India by air on the 20th instant last. I knew him in London and it was through him that I was given the idea of making contact with you from England for which I owe him a personal gratitude. He is one man who has done a great service to India from England during our difficult days. If my this information is correct I am sure you will thank him for it. You certainly know more about him than I do. He is good at international politics specially good at Russian politics. I think he will be the most suitable man to be sent to Russia as our first Hindustan Embassador. He may also be very useful in our Constituent Assembly now when Congress decides to accept the offer. Mr. Asaf Ali is the man if he can be spared, to be sent to America. And for England there is one

main willing and I think capable that name I will leave you to guess. By the way, Sardarji I hope you won't think I am getting unreasonable if I confessed to you that I want to stand for the Constituent Assembly this time, provided all goes well. I have a suggestion or a plan for the improvement of our Army, Navy and Air Force personnels of free and united India.

I also have a plan (if it is possible) by which Monsoon rain can be brought into India a couple of months earlier and also control to a great extent for the even distribution of rain fall all over India. Perhaps you think I am mad but I believe it is possible.

Lastly, for Embassadors as far as possible choose business men with a comprehensive knowledge or some fair knowledge on International politics. A business man by occupation is a diplomate and psychologist. Then again the trades & business abroad which really makes a country rich & powerful in the eyes international world. I want India to be powerful and rich and generous to other nations. Trust you are well.

Respectfully yours
Ranjit

written by hand

Sambalpur
30.6.46.

Esteemed Sir,

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You are so busy with so many important problems, that my first impulse was not to intrude upon your valuable time. But in the interests of Orissa and my district of Sambalpur, as I can see them, I feel that I must not hesitate to take some time of yours.

I am now a Raibahadur and a Government Pleader and for this fact, I am likely to be regarded by Congressmen (who do not know me personally), with suspicion. But there are Raibahadurs and Raibahadurs and although my share of human failings may be more than that of many others, similarly situated in life, I do not think even an enemy of mine, if there be any, can say a word against my strict sense of honesty and duty, in both my private or public life.

After the Non-copperation Resolution of 1920 at Nagpur, I was the first lawyer in Orissa that suspended practice, continued the suspension for about two years. I carried on Congress work in this dark corner of the country, till the end of 1928.

"GandhiKatha and Dharma" a pamphlet written by me spread the doctrine of truth and non-violence throughout the District and it was this district that took up the lead in Orissa in starting a National School and a National Paper.

The work continued but after Mahatmaji's imprisonment in 1924-25, corruption entered into the minds of

of most of my co-workers here resulting in disappearance of different items of Congress properties, and it became impossible for me to control the same.

I therefore invited Mahatmaji in 1927 and 1928 to see things for himself.

Mahatmaji could not be free from his strenuous work and came here in December 1928 in his way to the Calcutta Congress and when he saw things he had to be sorry for the deplorable situation that had been created here not so much by men of this district but by some unscrupulous people who coming from Cuttack and Puri, under the alleged direction of the Provincial Congress Headquarters at Cuttack, had imposed themselves on us.

My share of human failings may be more than that of many others similarly situated in life, but I dare say not even my enemy, if there be any, can impute a single act of dishonesty in my private or public life. And when I found corruption spreading amongst the then Congress Workers, I was thinking of keeping myself away when Mahatmaji came here in 1928.

Another incident happened at the Calcutta Congress as you may remember.

Orissa was not then a separate Province and one who has no personal experience of our hardships and difficulties for being under different Provinces at the time, cannot

cannot fully imagine our sufferings. At that time the most important problem before the Oriyas was to secure the formation of a separate Orissa Province. Therefore all of us - the A.I.C.C. members of Orissa that attended the Calcutta Congress - pressed in the subjects Committee the drafting of a resolution, recognising the desire of the Oriya Peoples to be formed into a separate Province. As you might remember, this request of ours was thrown of, and all of us-the Oriya members- had to walk out from the Subjects Committee meeting.

As our immediate objective then, was to secure the formation of a separate Province for Oriyas, I busied myself in that activity and along with others arranged a deputation that went up to the Viceroy at Simla and pressed there for the amalgamation of the Oriya-speaking tracts into one Province.

Flag B

My work there is referred in the enclosed extract from Orissa's then leading newspaper "Young Utkal".

It is an open secret that we secured from the then Viceroy (Lord Willingdon) an assurance that Orissa would be formed into a separate Province, during his Viceroyalty.

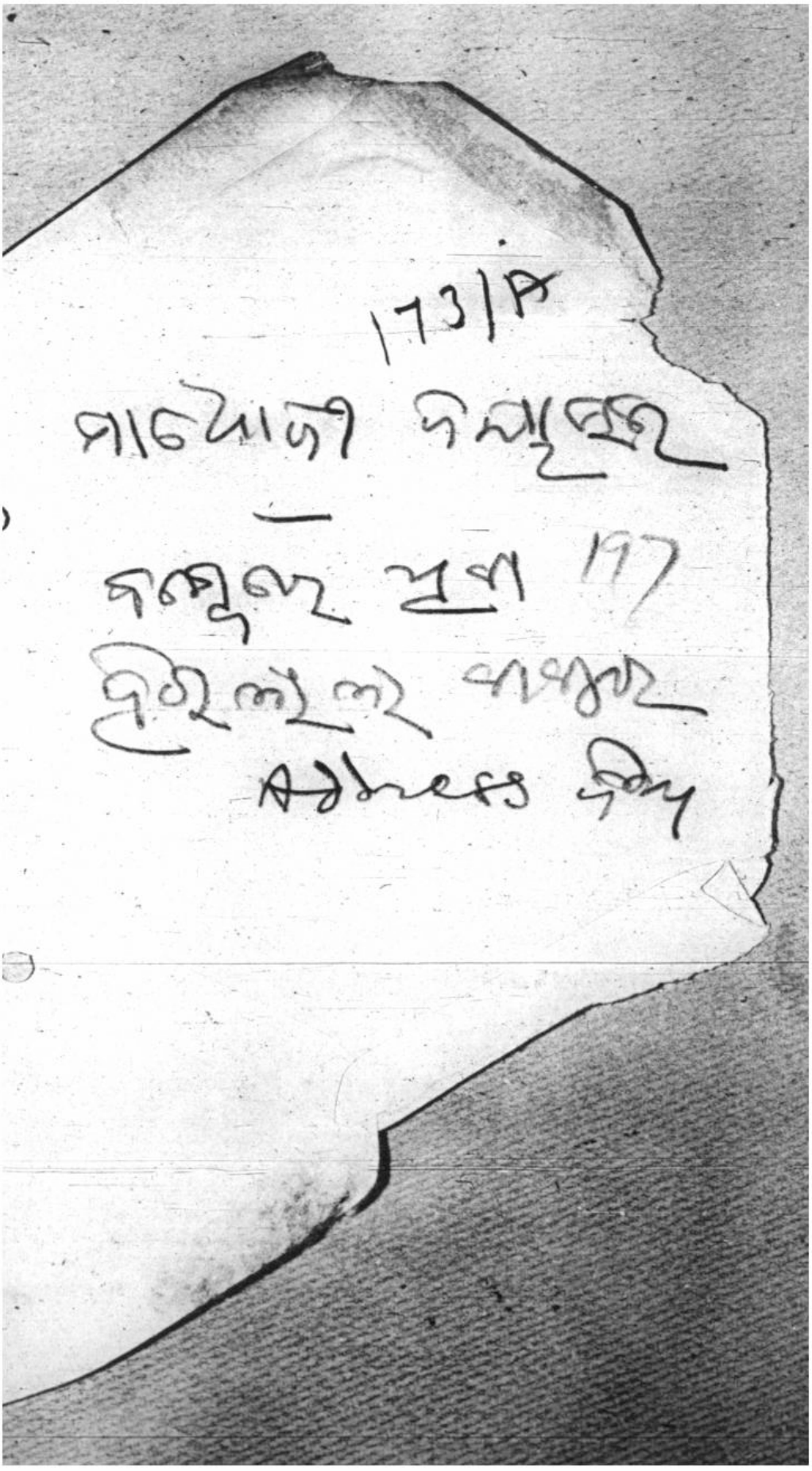
Flag C

In the mean time in 1930 my work in a certain big litigation was very much appreciated and both the authorities and the leading local men, wanted me to be the Government Pleader of this place, it being feared

feared that if I did not accept the post, it would go to a non-Oriya and it being felt that my acceptance of the post would very much facilitate our works and propaganda in the matter of amalgamation of Oriya speaking tracts and formation of a separate Orissa Province. In 1931 therefore I became Government Pleader and it has been renewed for the sixth time this year (each appointment is for 3 years).

In 1935,1936 I wrote a book known as "Gandhi Bhagbat" which in simple Oriya gives a history of the Congress movement in India and a bit of the lives of the Congress Workers and the struggles of the Congress, the way of non-violence, and the incidents of Dharsana Salt Raid, Jallianwala Bag massacres and many other things. When this fact came to the notice of the authorities, objection was taken to my writing such a book and I stance offered to resign my post as Government Pleader saying that because I was Government Pleader I cannot bear my views on politics and morality being controlled by the authorities. When the matters were still undecided the election of 1936 came and later on, the Congress Government and the matter was left where it was.

In 1937 the authorities of the International Congress of Law invited the Lawyers of the world to present Theses on certain specified subjects. I wrote a Thesis on one such subject. As you will find from the enclosed papers it was very highly appreciated by the International authorities including the most Eminent Jurists



Rai Bahadur

A. N. Purohit

Advocate

SAMBALPUR

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Jurists of the World. The Institute of Criminal Science of America and France found it to be so valuable that they took my permission for publication and translation of the same. The General Secretary of the International Congress says, that it not only honours the Indian Science (of Law) but makes world literature richer in the field.

Flag D.

In 1938 I was in the Sebagram Ashram for about a week and went there to renew my personal contacts with Mahatmaji.

In 1941 I was made a Rai Sahib but it was not for any sycophancy but for meritorious ork and for bringing together warring elements in this district, as the citation of His Excellency the Governor of Orissa will show (copy enclosed).

Flag E.

In 1945 I was made a Raibahadur but it was just to shelve my claim to the post of the Advocate General of Orissa, (which fact is an open secret in Orissa). I was not given the post on account of my Congress mindedness.

I find from the Newspapers that Non-Congress men with ability will be put up by the Congress for election to the Constituent Assembly. Craving leave to shed modesty, I may say that regard being had to my past services to the Congress-cause and the Province of Orissa and my abilities in the field of Law, my claim to be sent up to the Constituent Assembly by the Congress, cannot be inferior to that of any other living

living Oriya. Indeed no other living Oriya can show such a record of uniform honesty and ability. This district is a partially excluded area and according to Congress principles not only opportunities should be given to all but special facilities should be given to people living in such places in order to enable them to live up with those who might be taken as more advanced.

As such I could request you to select me as a candidate for election by the Orissa legislative Assembly, to the Constituent assembly.

Asking for pardon for the length of the letter,

Yours Truly
Achyutananda Purohit

K.S. Since not much time is left, may I request you to kindly consult Mr H.K. Mahtab by Phone; and if you kindly agree to select me, to send an express wire to me & also to Mr Mahtab, if consultation by Phone will be not possible.

Extract from a Memorial dated 29-4-41, submitted by some representative inhabitants of Sambalpur regarding grievances of the district to His Excellency, the Governor of Orissa.

"It is not that this district is wanting in merit or ability. To give an instance, Your Excellency must be aware of the moral and professional integrity of Rai Sahib A.N.Purohit, the Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor of this district and also his abilities, particularly those shown by him in the Arbitration proceedings of 1930, under a Government of India Resolution, between the Bengal Nagpur Railway on the one side and the Patna and Kalahandi States on the other; in his pleading the Orissa case befor His excellency the Viceroy Lord Willingdon at Simla as a member of the Orissa deputation in 1932, and as evidenced by the fact of his being one of the only two invitees from India to participate in the Congress of the World's Jurists that met at the Hague, Holland in 1937.

We dare say there is hardly another in all Orissa who has earned such International Recognition in the field of Law or who can beat him in purity of character, fearness and honesty."

* * * * *

Sd/-Rai Sahib Daityari Misra
Retired Sub.Deputy Magistrate.

Sd/-Rai Sahib A.Patel, M.B.E.,

Sd/-S.Joshi, Member, War Council

Sd/-Rai Sahib P.Supakar, Late Vice Chariman.Mi.Committee.

Sd/-B.P.Dani, Mi.Commissioner.

Sd/-Lal.A.T.Deb, Raja Khariar President, Zamindar Assn.

Sd/-Lal S.Singh, Zamindar Borasambar.

Sd/-Rai Sahib S.Gartia, Zamindar, Bijepur.

Sd/-Khan Sahib Md.Khan, Member District Council & War Board.

Sd/-A.Misra, Member Provincial War Board.

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Extract from the "Young Utkal"
in its issue of 20-9-1932 eddited by
Mr. B.Das M.L.A.
Under Heading "The Oriya deputation".

" The 17th of September will ever be remembered as a memorable day for the Oriyas in the history of Orissa. The Oriya deputation met His Excellency the Viceroy this day, * * * *

the case for Bihar etc. is so well put by Sjt. Koly Mohanty Purohit, that I do not think there is another in Orissa who could have done better."

******

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7 HASTINGS ROAD

NEW DELHI.

December 3rd 1935.

Mr. A.A.Purohit, who belongs to a much respected family was well-known to me when I was Deputy Commissioner of Sambalpur (some twelve years ago). At that time he had the reputation of being an able and energetic member of the local Bar. He was subsequently appointed Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor.

I next met Mr. Purohit when he came to Simla in 1932 as a member of an Orissa delegation to H. E. the Viceroy. Mr.Purohit was given a prominent position as one of the spokesmen of the delegation and in subsequent discussions with the Govt. of India Reforms Office he stated the Oriya case with ability and knowledge.

Sd/ W.H.Lewis, ICS.

New Delhi 3-12-35.

MR. ACHUDANANDA PUROHIT, who is now Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor, Sambalpur, was employed in an important arbitration case on behalf of the Patna State when under minority administration. He displayed distinct ability in that case, and detected a point of law which was very material to the decision of it. He also appeared before me, when I was Political Agent, in a number of criminal cases, and he conducted them with marked ability.

Sd/ J.Bowstead, C.I.E., MC.,
ICS.,
Chief Secretary to
the Govt. of Orissa.

Cuttack,
June 6, 1946.

A brief note of some works.

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I

Towards the end of 1929 or early in 1930 under a Resolution of the Government of India, The Honourable Mr. W.B.Heycock, I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue, Bihar and Orissa, was appointed arbitrator to decide two claims against the B.N.Ry., one amounting to about three lakhs of rupees preferred by the Ruling Chief of Kalahandi State and the other, for about Rs.[illegible]/- by Mr.Scott, I.C.S. Political Agent and Commissioner, Orissa Feudatory States on behalf of the then minor Chief of Patna State.

In both cases there was involved the common question whether the B.N.Ry. or the Secretary of State for the B.N.Ry., was liable to pay money to the Ex State for appropriating the timber on the lands over which the Raipur - Vizianagaram Railway had been laid.

The matter came up about the year 1926, and during the years 1927-30 it had been handled by the then Law Member of the Government of India, the Railway Board, the L.R. of the Government of Bihar and Orissa, the Political Agent and Commissioner, and the Officers of the two States.

Ultimately the Government of India for the Railway Board and the Government of Bihar and Orissa referred the matter to the arbitration of the Honourable Mr. Heycock under the Government of India Resolution referred to above, whereupon proceedings being started Mr. Pugh Bar-at-law instructed by OrrDignamm and Co. of Calcutta appeared for the

P.T.O.

for the Government and the B.N.Ry., Mr. Hassan Imam with some other leading Advocates of the Patna High Court Bar for the Kalahandi State and Mr. Shiveswar Dayal Government pleader of the Patna High Court for the Patna State (Orissa).

It had not occured to the authorities mentioned above nor to the respective Counsels, Attorneys and Lawyers appearing for the parties that the Government of India Resolution under which proceedings were being taken up, was not applicable.

I was appointed on behalf of the Patna State by Mr.J.E.Scott, I.C.S., Political Agent and Commissioner and Mr.J.Bowstead, I.C.S.,Assistant Political Agent, at a very late stage i.e., long after the pleadings of the parties had been filed and issues framed and just a few days before the date fixed for hearing. But within a week of my being briefed I pointed out that the proceedings up to that time were ultravires and that the dispute was not within the purview of the Resolution.

This view of mine which was against the views of the Law Member of the Government of India, and the Government of Bihar and Orissa and of Mr.Syed Hassan Imam, the then topmost Counsel of the Patna High Court Bar, the Ld. of Bihar and Orissa and Government pleader of the Patna High Court, and other high Officers and lawyers concerned, naturally came as a surprise especially as it went to the very root of the matter. As I was then but a junior practising in the dark corner of India, some smiled incredulously at me, some others thought I was too presumptuous, but I insisted that I was right even though I had to differ from the legal luminaries concerned. It was therefore thought necessary by Mr.Scott the

Mr. Scott, the Political Agent and Commissioner that Mr.Hassan Imam (though appearing for the Kalahandi State) should be requested to discuss the matter with me and that I should go from Sambalpur for and on behalf of the Patna State to Bankipur, for the purpose.

In presence of Mr.Bowstead, Assistant Political Agent and Mr.Gupta Forest Officer of the Patna State, I discussed the matter with Mr.Hassan Imam and his companion Advocates as also the lawyers of Bankipur that had been engaged by the Patna State before me, for about two days but they did not agree with me. On the third day however when I insisted that my interpretation of the Resolution was correct and that I could take for the Patna State the new point, even if they did not agree with me, [illegible] argument more in detail to ask present accepted my view as being correct. Since that moment the cases for the two States, were conducted on that line and Fresh pleadings were filed by the States of Kalahandi and Patna and new issues were framed on the points raised by me, and although in the begining the Hon'ble Member of the Board of Revenue and Mr.Pugh did not appreciate this new line of argument they ultimately agreed that the new interpretation put on the Resolution by me was quite correct. The matter was decided on the only issues raised by me, the other issues were not even touched.

It was then referred by the Hon'ble Board to the Government of Bihar and Orissa, and also to the Government of India pointing out,

out, the error discovered by me. The Government of India also accepted the view taken by me as being correct and ultimately advised the B.N.Ry., to satisfy the claims of the two States. The Patna State through the Political Agent and Commissioner thus won the case and got almost the full amount of their claim. The Kalahandi Maharaja also got the benefit of my interpretation and realised 4 lakhs of rupees or so from the B.N.Ry.

I venture to claim the credit that points which had been missed by every mighty pigged Officers and legal luminaries for years, were hit upon by me within two or three days of my engagement in the cases mentioned above.

II

Since the passing of the Inse...ney Act it was being ...plied to all parts of the Sambalpur District and it had not occurred to the Lega...ner or Judges, or even to the Bars of Patna and Cuttack and also Calcutta (that Laur...s within ...g from 1915 to 1918 ...) to the Judges of the two High Courts that here in Sambalpur, that the Act was not applicable to all parts of the District.

In Insolvency case No.17 of 1918 in the Court of the Subordinate Judge, Sambalpur, Jayshankar versus Ramchandra Pujhari and others, decided on 25.8.1919 objections for the first time was taken by me that the Act was not applicable to certain parts of the District. Inspite of vigorous oppositions by the Bar and the Judge I gained my point, since which time such cases are not even being registered by the courts here.

Since the passing of the C.P.Tenancy Act in the last century the Lawyers and courts in Sambalpur were of opinion that Rayati lands held by a Gountia of the village was not liable to sale by the Civil Cour

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ACADEMIE INTERNATIONALE

DE DROIT COMPARE

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DEUXIEME CONGRE INTERNATIONAL

DE DROIT COMPARE

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LA HAYE 12th AOUT 1937

Mr. A.N.Purohit B.L.,
Government Pleader and
Public Prosecutor,
Sambalpur,
Orissa, India.

My Dearest Colleague and Brother,

It is a great pleasure to me to communicate the unanimous resolution of the general Reporters praising and appreciating your special report, to you.

Congress was a true manifestation of International Co-operation of the most outstanding Jurists of the whole world.

I hope you will be able to attend our next Congress.

Believe me
Yours sincerely,
Sd/Ziemer Balogh
General Secretary of Internation Academy of Law.

UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND.
JOHANNESBURG.
***
P.O.Box.1176
Johannesburg.
Telegrams: University.
Telephone No.44-3781.

14th June, 1957.

A.N.Purohit Es.,
Government Pleader.
Sambalpur,
Orissa.

My dear colleague,

On behalf of the International Academy of Comparative Law I thank you for the kind sending of your excellent report which not only honours the Indian science but makes world literature richer in the field of law. On behalf of the International Academy of Comparative Law I also ask you to accept to be one of the Secretaries.

I am extremely glad that you will be present at our Congress which will be a true manifestation of international collaboration of the leading jurists of the whole world.

Believe me, Ever Yours.
Sd/-Elemer Balogh.

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY
OF COMPARATIVE LAW.

P.O.Box No.1176,
Johannesburg,
South Africa.

Permanent General Secretary:
Prof. E.Balogh.

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August 20th 1937.

My dear Colleague and Friend,

You have contributed such a learned paper. It was very highly appreciated by the General reporters and consequently by the whole congress for its features and originality, lucidity and ready documentation.

xx xx xx

Yours sincerely,

Sd/ E.Balogh.

INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL SCIENCE.

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Office of the Directo
1941 K.St.N.W.Washington,D.C.

April 18, 1938.

Dear Sir,

The institute of Criminal Science of Washington D.C.(has been granted a general authorization to publish the criminal law reports submitted to the Second International Congress of Comparative Law of 1937. It now wants to request your personal permission to publish,translate, summarize, or make other use of your report to that Congress. Proper recognition will, of course, be given to your report. In order to expedite the preparations for publication will you kindly sent your authorization directly to M.M.Antoine Kamp,Recuil Sirey, 22 Rue Saffiot, Paris, France, so that we may send your report at once to the Institute in Washington.

In the publication of this material the Institute of Criminal Science believes that it will make an important contribution to the generalization of knowledge in this field, and hopes that this may in turn lead to more activities looking towards the solution of the problems examined. The institute is gratified to be able to announce the unqualified support that it has received in this project to utilize and make generally available this valuable material. It therefore earnestly hopes that you will see fit to grant the authorization requested.

Sincerely Yours.
Sd. P.P.(Illegible)

Monsieur.

A.Purohit,
Govt.Pleader &
Public Prosecutor,
Sambalpur(Orissa)

TRUE COPY. 2-12

I know Rai Sahab A.N.Purohit, Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor, Sambalpur, which post he has filled with great credit. His work earned international recognition at the hands of the most eminent jurists of the world and was very much appreciated by the Institute of Criminal Science of America. He has displayed distinct ability in his works. His scrupulous honesty and industry has earned the appreciation of all that have come in contact with him. In view of the peculiar situation and the limited field of Orissa, we have not been able to encourage his merits. I strongly recommend him by to any responsible Judicial post.

Sd. K.C.Gajapathi
HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER?
ORISSA
29.6.1945

REVENUE COMMISSIONER OF ORISSA
CUTTACK
The 27th August ,1942.

Rai Sahab A.N.Purohit, Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor, Sambalpur, is well-known to me and has appeared before me in his professional capacity from time to time. He is a shrewd and sound lawyer, who studies his cases carefully and represents them ably. His grasp of essentials combined with his legal knowledge and acumen, has more than once enabled him even as a junior to point the way to his distinguished seniors. In 1937 he contributed a thesis to the International Congress of Comparative Law sitting at Hagus, which was accepted and published in the U.S.A. and France and highly appreciated and commended.

2. Rai Saheb A.N.Purohit has made his way to his present position entirely by his industry and merit, and I should be very glad to hear of his further advancement.

Sd. E.C.Ansorge.
Revenue Commissioner, Orissa & Ex-Advisor
to the Governor Orissa.

High Court
Patna .

High Court
Patna .

3rd. January 1945

I have known Rai Saheb Achyutanande Purohit , Government Pleader Sambalpur , for many years . He is a sound lawyer and very capable - advocate of considerable experience He is honest and industrious and is of pleasant manners . He is held in high esteem both by the Bench and the Bar .

Sd. S.C.Chaterji .

(Judge Patna High Court

TRUE COPY

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COPY OF CITATION READ BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF ORISSA AT THE THRONE DARBAR HELD ON THE 30TH JANUARY 1941.

Rai Saheb Achyutanand Purohit,

You have been in Government Service at Sambalpur since 1890 and have filled the post with great credit. Apart from that you have used your influence in the town and district for the promotion of harmony and good will between all sections of people.

It gives me great pleasure to invest you with the insignia of Rai Saheb.

Punjab

1901

246 f

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10th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 4th inst. The selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly is a difficult subject. There are only seven 'general' seats in the Punjab, and one thereof has already been given to the Frontier in exchange for Maulana Saheb, who has been accommodated there. The selection is made by Maulana Saheb in consultation with Dr.Kitchlew and Diwan Chamanlal, who have come here. I have very little to do in the matter.

The reference in the Cabinet Mission's proposals that the Punjab Hindus did not want partition of the Punjab, according to their information, must have been based on some data. Who informed them, I do not know. But there is no doubt that the information must have been given to them by those who were invited for discussion. They may not be necessarily from the Punjab, but some of the all-India leaders who were consulted must have informed them.

Yours sincerely,

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava,
M.L.A. (Central),
Anand Bhawan,
Hissar.

Pt. Thakur Das Bhargava
M. L. A. (Central)
M. A. LL. B. Advocate

Anand Bhawan—
HISSAR.

192

4th July 1946.

Dear and Respected Sardar Sahib,

I crave liberty to encroach upon your precious time in respect of an important matter and hope you would excuse me for doing so.

A few days ago, I read in the papers that the High Command had appointed Hon'ble Mr. Sachhhar and Dr.S.D. Kichlu to select representatives for nomination by the congress for the Constituent Assembly. I was expecting that these gentlemen would invite applications from candidates and notify the intimation about the date in some papers. Two days ago I suddenly read in the paper that Dr. Kichlu was going to Simla to confer with Mr.Hon'ble Mr. Sachchar on this matter.

On my return to Delhi I stayed at Delhi for a day to see you but you were too busy on the 28th June and so I could not get an opportunity. I had an urgent appointment on 28th June here at Hissar and so I had to leave Delhi.

On receiving information that Dr.Kichlu had gone to confer with Hon'ble Mr. Bhim Sain Sachchar, I wrote to him at Simla that I was also a candidate for the Constituent Assembly. I do not know if Mr. Sachhhar received my letter in time. I, however, took the further precautions of sending telegram to Dr. Kichlu at Lahore and Mr. Sachchar at Simla. But from the Punjab papers received here today I find that my name does not appear even in the list of candidates. I, therefore, approach you with the request that my name may also be considered at the time of final selection by the Congress High Command.

I am desirous of serving on the Constituent Assembly as I feel that very momentous issues affecting the country and especially the Ambala Division will come up for decision and I can be of some service.

Pt. Thakur Das Bhargava
M. L. A. (Central)
M. A. LL. B. Advocate

216 193

Anand Bhawan

HISSAR. 194

You are fully aware that the inhabitants of Ambala Division have practically very little in common with the North West Punjab. Our language, culture, traditions, custom, manners and dress are radically different and in these matters we are homogeneous with people of Agra and Meerut Divisions of which Ambala division admittedly formed part before its annexation with the Punjab after the Mutiny of 1857 by way of punishment. The Punjab has always been according a step motherly treatment to the Ambala Division and it has been very improperly treated in matters of education, facility for irrigation, remission of land revenue and share in public services, and we have practical-ly been considered as foreigners.

We have been agitating for a long time for separation from the Punjab. I was first elected the member of Central Assembly from this Division in 1937 and I pleaded for separation in the All Parties Confrence held at Delhi in 1938. Subsequently a Sub-Committee was also formed with Mr. Asaf Ali as President for carrying on propaganda for formation of a separate Province for Delhi and Ambala Division. And since then I have been taking prominent part in this movement. We have been holding several confrences and resolutions were even sent to the Joint Parliamentary Comittee in favour of seprration.

At the Round Table Confrence also we hide had this issue raised and then Mahatama Jee and Mr. Jinnah both supported the question of separation. The Punjab Hindus and Sikhs however combined with Hindu Maha Sabhaists torpedoed this scheme which was then known as Sir Samuel George Corbett Scheme. After that also we have continued the eduestion. In March 1946 I recalled a representative confrence of all the leading representatives of the Ambala Meerut and Agra Divisions and Delhi Province which unanimously passed the resolution in favour of separation.

Pt. Thakur Das Bhargava
M. L. A. (Central)
M. A. LL. B. Advocate

Anand Bhawan

2 9 194—

HISSAR, 194

The population of Hindus in the Ambala Division is a little over 30 lacs and they constitute 72% of the total population. Normally therefore we should have got 3 representatives on the C.A., but as Hon'ble Mr. N. C. Khanna is also being nominated from the Punjab we are entitled to at least 2 seats on the C.A.

I was greatly surprised to read the Cabinet Mission Proposals of 16th May that they had been informed that the Punjab Hindus did not want the partition of the Punjab as they spoke the same language while the truth is that they never consulted any Hindu from the Ambala Division. I therefore sent telegrams to Cabinet Mission and the Congress President that this view of the Cabinet Mission was unjust. I sent three letters to Cabinet Delegation on the subject and a letter to the President of the Congress a copy of which was sent to you also, which was duly acknowledged by you.
I was assured that the C.A. would be competent to discuss this question of separation of Ambala Division.

The Central Punjab Hindus and Sikhs have always opposed this scheme and in fact they have never given just consideration to the claims of the Ambala Division. I apprehend that even now we shall not have a fair deal and effectual representation. I hope you will consider my claims and see that Ambala Division gets adequate and proper representation.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Thakur Das Bhargava
Donated by
Hissar

B. I. Cable.

No. 220

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT. 195

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O ME AMRITSAR G 9 SARDAR PATEL BOMBAY

CONFIRMED DIHARDS ULTRALOYALISTS TITLE HOLDERS BEING NOMINATED BY CONGRESS MINISTER IN AMRITSAR MUNICIPALITY INSPITE OF REPEATED REQUESTS TO THE Contrary STOP HARIJAN SEAT BEING ABOLISHED CONSIDERABLE UNREST IN HARIJAN QUARTERS CONGRESS CAUSE IS BEING DAMAGED AND BETRAYED BY THE CONGRESS MINISTER INTERVENTION PRAYED

KARTARSINGH SECRETARY DISTRICT CONGRESS COMMITTEE

AMRITSAR

(ESK)..1450..

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196

th July 46

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of the 3rd inst. I thank you for the compliment that you have paid to me by asking me to seek election from the Punjab Legislative Assembly. But I do not think it would be proper for me to be elected from there nor do I think it necessary to do so. The Punjab team will have all the guidance and support of the Congress Working Committee and I have no doubt that it will give a good account of itself. Mr.Jinnah has good reasons to go there. There are only two seats in Bombay for Muslims and he wants to provide for his friends from there. Besides, he has made Punjab practically his home. He hardly stays in Bombay now. I have no such claim.

It is too late for you to come here to discuss the matter. The Working Committee has already fixed the names in consultation with the Punjab delegates to the A.I.C.C. and communicated them to the Punjab Party Leader. The election being near, nothing further can be done. We all can help the team that has been selected from outside and I am sure you will do the same.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Nanak Chand Pandit,

Personal Punjab

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Nanak Chand Pandit
B.A.(Punjab) M.A.(Oxon)
Barrister-at-Law, Advocate-
High Court

6, Edwardes Road,
Lahore.
July 3, 1946.

Dear Sardar Patel

I am writing this letter to you after consultation with a number of prominent Hindus of the Punjab. We all feel that the most important constituent Assembly shall be that of B Group. The Mohammadans are putting in their best men there with Mr. Jinnah as their leader. It is in this Assembly that the fate of Pakistan or Hindustan will be decided. We, therefore, feel that you should seek election from the Punjab Legislative Assembly, and we also feel that you should have the very best men to support you in this Group Assembly. The Non-Moslem Party in this Group Constituent Assembly should be powerfully led; therefore the candidates should be impartially chosen and there should be no hesitation on the part of the Congress High Command to leave out men on whom reliance cannot be placed or whose ability, tact and understanding is not at par atleast with Mohammadan leadership. I may inform you that every effort will bemade by the rival Party to win over your men by promises of various kinds. This was their game in the past and it is likely to be their game this time also.

I naturally feel a certain amount of delicacy and great hesitation in putting forward my own name. Therefore, I am writing to you at the last minute. A few days ago I sent a letter to Dr. Rajendra Prasad who in reply said that the choice of selection will be with the P.P.C.C. But Dr.Kitchlew told me that the matter would be decided by the Congress High Command in Bombay. I may further assure you that I have no personal axe to grind. I sacrificed my career at the Bar and devoted all my time and attention to Constitutional matters

and reforms connected with the years 1928-1935. From 1923-1936, I was in the Punjab Council. Those were days when the Ali Brothers and other Moslem leaders were openly demanding Hindu minorities as hostages in their hands ! Lahore Hindu leaders sent me twice to England in 1929 and 1931 unofficially. Twice I was selected to plead, the Hindu cause before the 3rd Round Table Conference and the Joint Parliamentary Committee. I was also the spokesman before the Simon Commission. We placed the strictly national point of view before these bodies and fought hard against separate electorates and caste divisions. I was cross-examined for several hours both before the Simon Commission and Joint Parliamentary Committee.

I can say without fear of contradiction(and the records will bear me out) that the verdict of the Simon Commission and the Indian Central Committee on the Communal representation was in our favour.

Lord Lothian's Franchise Committee in their report upheld our point of view regarding the representation of agricultural and Schedule castes.

But unfortunately the attitude of the Congress and the British Government was to win over the sympathy of the Moslems by making them all sorts of concessions. We were not given representation even on our population basis. However all that is past history, though it has left many hurdles in our path.

Thanks, however, to your attitude that the Congress High attitude has now completely changed and the All India Congress leaders view these questions from a different angle of vision. I, therefore, joined the Congress as I had never joined any communal organisation before. It was due to me that Dr. Gokal Chand Narang withdrew

from the contest from the Rawalpindi and Lahore Constituency. The compromise or withdrawal was arrived at, at my house.

But the Congress Party in the Punjab is hopelessly divided and I doubt very much whether they have been able to make up their differences even when the final battle is about to be fought.

We, therefore, feel very strongly that you should lead this part of the Army. It is felt here that I should be there to support you. Your choice is very limited as the Non-Moslems can have only 8 persons. Therefore you must have incorruptible, tried and experienced men. The weight of attack will be made in the B Group Assembly . For the sake of the future generations of Hindus, it is your duty to choose only the best and picked men.

Some influential and important Hindus held discussions and decided to request you to come over to this side. Please do not shirk this very important though most arduous duty. The A group Assembly can afford to set you free. Our future is in your hands. Please do not disappoint us. You alone will be able to control the hopelessly divided Congress Party in the Punjab.

Though now I am one of the top most men at the Bar, yet I am ready to make any sacrifice that this fateful hour demands. I feel that my knowledge of Constitutional affairs, my past experience of the Council and conferences, and of long and arduous struggle in India and in England, should be placed at your disposal. I know the inns and out of the Punjab Politics. Therefore my desire to be in the Constituent Assembly.

If you wish to have the matters fully explained I am ready to see you at Bombay. If you wish to give any message

you will kindly phone to Sir Tek Chand whose Phone No. is 3532. He will convey your message to me.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

Nanak Chand Pandit

241.

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3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your Committee's resolution. Punjab has got only 8 general seats for the Constituent Assembly and one of it has already been provided for by exchanging this with the Frontier and therefore there remains only 7 and it is difficult to provide for all claimants when there are only 7 seats. However, the matter is left to the Congress Assembly Party, who can do what they consider to be appropriate under the circumstances and in the interest of the province. All Congressmen should learn to loyally accept the decisions of the Congress.

Yours sincerely,

The Secretary,
Congress Committee,
Lyallpur.

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Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel,
Congress House,
Bombay.

SIR,

The following resolution has been passed by the Congress Committee, Lyallpur, on the 28th of June, 1946, and is being sent to you for your information and kind consideration:

"That Lyallpur Congress Committee fully endorses the resolution of the Working Committee of the All India Congress Committee to send best constitutional experts to the Constituent Assembly. In pursuance of the same policy strongly recommend S. Sant Singh Advocate, Lyallpur as one of the Sikh candidates and also suggest Sir Bakhshi Tek Chand, Sir Dalip Singh and Sir Jai Lal, ex-judges of the Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Lahore

Yours,

Ishwar Chand Khanna

Secretary,
Congress Committee, Lyallpur.

Dated: 29.6.46.

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Camp: New Delhi.
28th June 46.

My dear Rallia Ram,

I have received your personal and confidential letter of the 26th inst. It is difficult for me to do anything in the matter, as I am not incharge of the selection of candidates for the Constituent Assembly. The Working Committee has left the matter to the Provincial CongressAssembly Parties, with a simple direction that the parties should see that provision is made for proper representation of minorities such as Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Parsis, Women and special interests such as labour, etc. In your province there areonly 8 "general" seats, one of which is to be given to the Frontier Province in exchange for their having agreed to provide for one of the members of the Working Committee in their province. There thus remains only 7 seats, which will be very keenly contested and perhaps it may be very difficult to persuade them to accommodate you. However, I am asking the General Secretary to see if anything could be done.

Yours sincerely,

Shri B.L.Rallia Ram,
C/o Post Box No.133,
Lahore.

204 26/6/46
C/o P.O. Box
133
Lahore

My dear Sardar Sahib,

I am sending you an official letter separately, but this is a personal and confidential letter which is not easy to write. I do it with a great deal of hesitation. I hope you will forgive me.

I shall like my name to be considered in connection with the Constituent Assembly. My name is included in the official list, as I held several important & highly representative posts amongst Christians, but if I go I want to go as a Congressman under full Congress discipline. For me the Communal interests must be subordinated to National interests. As a Christian Congressman I will like to give my wholehearted support to all features which makes the Constitution truly National.

I have had considerable experience in Constitution-making in a small scale. I was a Member of the Safeguards Committee.

While I have boldly put forward this suggestion, I certainly do not wish to embarrass you. I know your decision will be in the larger

interest of the Country and, therefore, it will the right one.

I am in no way pressing my name ~~or~~ nor do I wish to take any undue advantage. Kindly throw this letter in the waste paper basket if you consider that I ought not to have written it & pardon.

Yours faithfully,

B. L. Kalra Ram

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Camp: New Delhi.
28th June 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your telegram of the 27th inst. Candidates for the Constituent Assembly will not be selected by us but they are to be selected by the Congress Assembly Party members in the province. Therefore you must approach the leader of the party.

Yours sincerely,

Swami Krishnadass,
Sialkot.

1937

207

X VC SIALKOT C 27 4/ SARDAR PATEL BIRLA HOUSE ALBUQUREQUE ROAD NEW DELHI

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RESPECTFUL SUGGEST CHAUDHRI KRISHNAGOPAL DUTTS NAME FOR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY FROM PUNJAB STOP HE ADMITTEDLY THE ABLESE MEMBERS PUNJAB ASSEMBLY CONGRESS PARTY. STOP HE STUDENT OF CONSTITUTIONS HIS SUBJECT IN UNIVERSITY WAS POLITICAL SCIENCE AND CONSTITUTIONS

SWAMI KRISHANADASS

207/A

SIND

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208

3rd July 46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 1st July. You must remember that there is only one seat provided for in the general constituency, which means non-Muslim community in Sind, and there can be no question that Shri Jairamdas is the fittest and the topmost person from that province. Therefore if he is selected, neither you nor anybody in Sind should have any cause for complaint. Your ability as a lawyer is unquestioned but you cannot get elected by simply saying that the 'Sind Congress is dominated by a clique, who do not hesitate to suppress people who are not worshippers at their temple'. All people who are dissatisfied with the Congress in the matter of selections either for the Council, Assembly or Constituent Assembly Assembly can make the same charge. But where the Congress organisation is to make a choice between the tallest Congressman who had been in the Working Committee for a number of years and a good lawyer who has been attending to his own business throughout his life and when the time for making sacrifices comes, for personal reasons, he keeps himself aloof, what other choice can they make? Although you are a good lawyer, you have not put your case properly in this matter. All lawyers, as a rule, prefer to engage another lawyer when they

Srikishendas & Co.,
ADVOCATES.
SRIKISHENDAS, H. LULLA M.A., LL.B.
BALKRISHNA, H. LULLA B.A., LL.B.
LAKSHMAN, S. LULLA B.A., LL.B.
NANDALAL, B. LULLA LL.B.

14 & 21 Laxmi Building,
MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD,

236 + 210

Karachi. D/- 1st July 1946.

Re:

Respected Sardar Saheb,

I have made bold to pen this letter to you in the earnest hope that it will receive due consideration at your hands.

Sind has a single seat on the constitution making body. (I mean Non-Moslem). That seat the working committee has alloted to Sjt Jairamdas Doulatram, without even consulting the wishes of the people of this province, and without affording any opportunity to others to make their representation to the High Command.

The task of Non-Moslem representative of this province in

have to plead their own case. But they make a mess if they have to defend their own case. I am afraid you have done so in your own case.

Yours sincerely,

Shri Srikrishnadas H.Lulla, M.A.,LL.B.,
14 Laxmi Building,
Mahatma Gandhi Rd.,
Karachi.

256 + 210

Srikishendas & Co.,
ADVOCATES.
SRIKISHENDAS, H. LULLA M.A., LL.B.
BALKRISHNA, H. LULLA B.A., LL.B.
LAKSHMAN, S. LULLA B.A., LL.B.
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The task of Non-Moslem representative of this province in

Srikishendas & Co.
Advocates, Karachi.

in the B-Group Constituent Assembly will be peculiar. N.W.F. Province and Baluchistan have no Non-Moslem representative on constituent assembly. The conflict between Punjab, and Sind on some points is not unlikely. Even otherwise the province needed to be represented by its best man.

The qualifications for such a person are well known to you. The working committee itself has emphasised the inclusion of the best lawyers in the country. These gentlemen will not be present in B-Group assembly. I have no doubt the interests of Sind demanded selection of a lawyer acquainted with the Constitution law in particular. University education, the acquaintance with constitutions of the various democratic countries,

countries, a knowledge of the working constitution of the various component parts of the British Empire, history of constituent assemblies whever they have existed & above all a thorough knowledge of historical back ground of the constitutional position of India within last 200 years, and the art of construing various enactments have all a qualifying contribution to make, in the equipment of a proper representative on proposed constituent assemblies.

In my humble opinion Sjt Jairamdas has not the necessary qualifications. Apart from other things, Sjt Jairamdas of today is not the Jairamdas of old. His long illness, his keeping away from politics of the country for about a decade, his inability to put forth hard work, his constant plea that

he

he could not afford at best more than two hours for all things during all the day, his domestic reasons together with his own state of health were sufficient to disqualify him, even if he was otherwise fitted for the job.

Nominating him for the office, is an imposition upon the people of this province which was not merited.

The principle of depriving the people's representatives to make a free choice is undemocratic, to say no more. To do so, without affording intending candidates opportunity to represent their cause is not just to the province or its people.

Unfortunately Sind Congress is dominated by a clique, who do not hesitate to suppress people who are not worshippers at their temple. The tri-murti of this province could not be

unknown

unknown to you, the experienced head of parliamentary life in our country.

It is known that I did intend to offer myself for the seat. You know me. I am an M.A. in History, Economics & Politics. I headed the University in Economics at M.A. I am a First Class LL.B. I am a leading legal practitioner in this City and province An civil side. I have been associated with Indian National Congress for last quarter of century, if not longer. I have enjoyed several offices in the Congress organization, right upto membership of A.I.C.C.

I was present in All Parties Conference at Lucknow at the time of Nehru constitution. I refused invitation to go to England to give evidence before Joint Parliamentary Committee, on

on behalf of Hindu Mahasabha in 1933. I have been legal adviser to the local and provincial congress leaders. I was selected even at the time of recent R.I.N. Inquiry at Karachi, to do the needful pursuant to your letter to the President of Provincial Congress Committee.

I have been associated with Indian Mercantile bodies in this city for about last two decades.

Early this month, I was selected by All India Mercantile organization in New Delhi to represent India at an International Conference in Paris for International Commercial Arbitrations but Government of India did not give me priority in air passage to be able to be present in Paris in time.

I was intimately associated with late Mr. Allahbakhsh,

during

during his tenure of office as Premier, and represented him at a Court of Inquiry as to causes of Manzilgah Riots.

I was for a long term associated with the Law College, as a professor and among the subjects I taught was " The law of Indian Constitution, & Government of India Act."

I regret that my candidature should have been cut off in this abrupt and undemocratic manner.

I do not know if anything can be done now but I do wish to bring this to your notice with a request that this wrong may, if possible, be righted.

You will also remember how the tri-Murta of this province dealt with me at the time of the last elections to the Central Assembly. I feel they have all along wished to suppress me

~~for~~ for

for reasons I need not mention here.

The only other candidate that was seriously in the field was Mr. Nihchaldas Vazirani. He is of course ambitious but he has neither past record nor any basic foundation, educational or otherwise. He is a lawyer by profession but confined mostly to criminal courts in mofussil. His educational equipment does not go beyond Matric. The only thing to his credit is his career as a minister for periods since the last reforms. He is not an old or experienced Congress-man. ~~End justifies the means would seem to be his motto.~~ But whatever his merits, it is to be considered if they endow him with necessary qualifications for constituent assembly, whose task will tell on unborn generations.

If knowing the various candidates, the Working Committee

had made a selection, there would have been no occasion for any one to feel.

It has been noticed that Working Committee has not made selection for even a single seat from the Punjab, and I wish the only seat alloted to Sind Non-Moslems had been left to be filled by people's representatives by their free choice. But that is past history. I only hope what I have written may be borne in mind and if possible, something done now, and if not, when affirs of Sind at any time hereafter need attention from you. You may then only remember that there can be other side of the picture, not presented to you by those dominating the political & Congress leadership in this province.

Begging to be excused for writing what I have.

With

Srikishendas & Co.
Advocates, Karachi.

With pranams.

Yours sincerely

Srikishendas H. Lulla

From
Srikishendas. H. Lulla
M.A, LL.B
14 Laxmi Building
Karachi

219 P

United Provinces

— " —

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LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

At at Vizianagram Palace.
Benares
July 8, 1946

My dear and esteemed Sardar Saheb,

I will not attempt to thank you; for it would be useless - my gratitude is too deep for words - your encouraging words have put a new heart into me and I am hearing to [illegible] - The position in the U.P is like this - There are [illegible] Zamindars who are members of the legislature. But I can't appeal - I got all their Votes - I am not liked by them in general, for they hate my progressive views. I can however rely on two of the [illegible] Votes - I want just two more to win - If in your goodness of heart you could graciously [illegible] Pantji to [illegible] with our premier Pantjee, I [illegible] I will see him through - [illegible] Zamindars combine and [illegible] Zamindar, I am [illegible] usual Zamindar type and [illegible] the very humble record of service which your "Sevak" has the privilege to have - Pantjee with his great influence can talk to them and even snatch a Vote and add it on to me -

In the end Sir I wish to say that with your blessings, I am able to keep my head above water - You will never have cause to feel, that I have in any way let you down. It is my ambition to be the recipient of another telegram from you similar to the one you had sent me when I was returned to the Central Assembly and needless to say that I shall pass those two telegrams on to my children as the most precious of my earthly possessions.

With Pranams

Gratefully yours,

Vijay Ananda

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Ram Ratan Gupta

Bihari Niwas
Cawnpore.
30/6/46.

My dear Respected Sardarji

Let me Congratulate you for the decission of working Committee in which I know the part which you have played directly into this decision.

I would have come to Bombay myself but since visitors are not permitted I am not coming.

In the selection of Constituent assembly I think Business Representation of Congressmen also should be there. If I can thought to be of any service from Northern India I shall be glad to take the Responsibility.

Hope you are well

With Regard
Yours sincerely
R. Ratanlal

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Camp: New Delhi.

28th June 46

My dear Govind,

I have received your letter of the 26th inst. The election of members to the Constituent Assembly has been left to the provinces and I have no voice in the matter. Your services would indeed be very useful and I would have recommended your name, if I had anything to do with it. The best thing for you would be to approach Pantji, whose voice will be the deciding factor.

Yours sincerely,

PT.

Shri Govind Malaviya,
15 Cart Road,
SIMLA.

15 Cart Road
Simla 223
26. 6. 46

Poojya Vallabh Bhai, Pranams,

May I take a minute of your busy time? Regarding the forthcoming elections to the Constituent Assembly, if you think it right and desirable, I shall be happy to be included among the candidates to be elected. But, if you find that my inclusion will stand in the way of anyone more suitable and desirable being

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taken in, I need not tell you,
I shall be quite happy to be
left out.

I only just wanted to
mention the matter to you. You
will kindly do whatever you
will consider best. And I shall
be happy and content
With respectful regards.

Your soldier,

Govind Rakhra.

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Camp: Birla House,
New Delhi. 12.6.46.

Dear friend,

I have received your letter of 8th inst. The question of election to the Constituent Assembly rests with the members of the Provincial Assembly and the election is by proportional representation by single transferable vote. It would hardly be possible for us to influence the elections from outside. But it is quite possible that we may issue instructions of a general character for the guidance of the electorate. It may not be advisable to recommend candidates. I would therefore suggest that you should work for this purpose in your provincial electorate.

Yours sincerely,

Shri D.L.Dubey,
Meerut. U.P.

MEERUT, U. P. 226.

10/6/46

Dated. June 8, 1946.

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Respected Sardar Patel,

Further to my previous correspondence with you during the election period on the subject of the calibre of M.L.A's approved by you for election to the Legislatures on the Congress Ticket, I was glad to learn later on that you were pleased to institute enquiries on some of the points that I raised my letters.

There is again an opportunity if you are inclined to give me a chance, this time to the Constituent Assembly. I need not repeat all my record of public service or the part that I played in the H.J. Contempt of Court case, but I should certainly like to mention that I had the pleasure of learning a bit of public finance at the feet of the present Chancellor of the Exchequer in Britain. If the plan is accepted, 47 Hindus can go from U.P. Whether you select me or not, I should like to send you a number of suggestions for your serious consideration. The Hindu group of provinces should now develop solidarity and work out plans for the development of Ports in Orissa and Kathiawar. If two Muslims can be bought in the

N. W. group and an equal number in the North East region, the regional grouping on the Pakistan lines will fail to materialise, although on other grounds and on different bases the grouping of provinces may turn out to be highly beneficial.

Yours Respectfully,
D L Dubey